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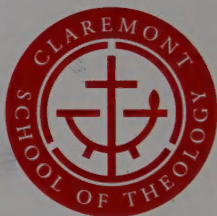


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This is to certify that

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was received into the membership of

.....

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH of

.....

on the.....day of.....

in the year.....

.....Pastor

CONSTITUTION AND DISCIPLINE

OF THE

Methodist Protestant Church

Revised by The General Conference of 1936

Edited by C. E. Forlines, D. D.

THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION OF THE
METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH

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HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE ORIGIN OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH

Compiled by Rev. T. H. Lewis, D. D.
and adopted by the General Conference at
Washington, D. C., 1904.

The Methodist Protestant Church, instituted in 1828 and organized under its present title in 1830, traces its origin through the Methodist Episcopal Church, back to that Evangelical Reformation begun in England by John and Charles Wesley, of Oxford University and Presbyters of the Church of England.

RISE OF METHODISM.

The rise of Methodism is described by Mr. John Wesley as follows: "In 1729, two young men reading the Bible, saw they could not be saved without holiness, followed after it, and incited others so to do. In 1737, they saw holiness comes by faith. They saw likewise that men are justified before they are sanctified; but still holiness was their point. God then thrust them out, utterly against their will, to raise a holy people.

"In the latter end of the year 1739, eight or ten persons came to me in London, who appeared to be deeply convinced of sin, and earnestly groaning for redemption. They desired (as did two or three more the next day) that I would spend some time with them in prayer, and advise them how to flee from the wrath to come, which they saw continually hanging over their heads.

"That we might have more time for this great work I appointed a day when they might all come together, which, from thenceforward, they did every week, namely, on Thursday in the evening. To

these, and as many more as desired to join them (for their number increased daily), I gave those advices from time to time, which I judged most needful to them, and we always concluded our meeting with prayer suited to their several necessities.

"This was the rise of the United Society, first in London and then in other places. Such a society is no other than a company of men having the form and seeking the power of godliness, united in order to pray together, to receive the word of exhortation, and to watch over one another in love: that they may help each other to work out their own salvation."

GROWTH AND ORGANIZATION IN AMERICA.

John and Charles Wesley came to America in 1736 and remained nearly two years, but this was before the Methodist movement had taken definite shape even in their own minds, and their labors here were without practical result.

Methodism began in America with the coming of Robert Strawbridge, of Ireland, to Frederick County, Maryland, and Philip Embury, of Ireland, to New York City, in 1766. In 1769 Mr. Wesley sent Richard Boardman and Joseph Pilmoor, and in 1771, Francis Asbury and Richard Wright.

These and others traveled constantly and labored so abundantly, that in 1784, although the work had been seriously interrupted by the Revolutionary War, the number of traveling preachers in America was about eighty, and of members about fifteen thousand.

Up to this time no Methodist Church had been organized. Methodist preachers and members of Methodist societies in America, as in England, were mostly members of the Church of England. But as this church ceased to exist in America it became necessary to organize the Methodists into a church, for they were as sheep having no shepherd.

Mr. Wesley, although refusing to the last to consent to a separation from the Church of England, saw the necessity in America and gave his consent in the following words: "As our American brethren are now totally disentangled both from the State and the English hierarchy, we dare not entangle them again either with the one or the other. They are now at full liberty simply to follow the Scriptures and the primitive Church. And we judge it best that they should stand fast in that liberty wherewith God has so strangely set them free."

The letter containing this permission was sent over by Dr. Thomas Coke, he and Francis Asbury being designated Joint Superintendents over the work in America.

Accordingly, on Dr. Coke's arrival, a conference of the traveling preachers was called to meet in Baltimore, Maryland, in December, 1784. About sixty were present, who proceeded to organize an independent church under the title of "The Methodist Episcopal Church," and to elect Thomas Coke and Francis Asbury, Bishops.

The church thus organized was peculiar in several respects, but its most remarkable feature was that the unlimited exercise of the legislative, executive and judicial powers of the church were vested by these traveling preachers in themselves and their successors, to the entire exclusion of all the members of the church, no provision being made for any layman to vote, as such and directly, upon any question in any church meeting.

This fact explains the origin of the Methodist Protestant Church, and fixes its date as well. For, although some forty years intervened before the Methodist Protestant Church emerged into historical fact, yet Methodists began to protest against the kind of government established in 1784 almost before the Conference adjourned, and the protest gathered volume and intensity with every succeeding Conference. In ten years it resulted in a seces-

sion on the question of giving preachers an appeal from the stationing authority. In twenty years it produced a delegated General Conference with restrictions upon the legislative power; and in thirty-six years it grew into an overwhelming, although ineffective, majority of the General Conference in favor of electing presiding elders by the annual Conferences.

ORIGIN OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

The particular protest made by those who finally organized the Methodist Protestant Church was aimed at the feature of the government which was regarded as the real cause of all the dissatisfaction among Methodists, viz., the exclusion of laymen from the councils of the Church, and withholding from them the right of suffrage.

After years of desultory discussion of this point, William S. Stockton, a layman, of Philadelphia, Pa., began in 1821 the publication of a periodical called the "Wesleyan Respository," which was intended to provide a medium for the more formal examination of what began to be called "the mutual rights of the ministry and laity," and also to spread abroad the views of leading ministers and laymen on this subject.

This publication was superseded in 1824 by "The Mutual Rights of Ministers and Members of the Methodist Episcopal Church," published at Baltimore, Maryland, with the same general object in view. A large number of pamphlets, also privately printed, contributed to the stream of discussion which continued to spread over the Church.

PETITION.

When the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church met in 1824, a large number of petitions were presented, praying a representation of ministers and laymen in the law-making department, but no change was promised, and the only

answer vouchsafed was: "If by 'rights and privileges' it is intended to signify something foreign from the institutions of the Church as we received them from our fathers, pardon us if we know no such rights; if we do not comprehend such privileges."

Immediately after the close of the General Conference, a meeting was held, composed of distinguished members of the Conference, and others from different parts of the country, to consider whether it were advisable to continue efforts for the reform. It was decided to recommend to reformers everywhere to organize themselves into societies "in order to ascertain the number of persons in the Methodist Episcopal Church friendly to a change in her government." These were called Union Societies, and their whole object was so to unite the Reformers as to present to the next General Conference a petition which would obviate the objection made against the appeals to the Conference of 1824; that they were so various and conflicting in their aims, it was impossible to discover what they wanted, or who wanted them.

In November, 1827, a General Convention was held in Baltimore, composed of one hundred delegates representing Reformers in seven States, by whom a Memorial was prepared to be presented to the ensuing General Conference, praying for the admission of laymen into the legislative councils of the Church.

The General Conference, after deliberating three whole weeks in committee upon the Memorial, not only denied the necessity or justice of the change proposed, but extended the claim for the exclusive right of ministers to legislate for the Church beyond what had ever been attempted before: "The great Head of the Church Himself has imposed on us the duty of preaching the Gospel: of administering its ordinances, and of maintaining its moral discipline among those over whom the Holy Ghost in these

respects has made us overseers. Of these also, namely, of Gospel doctrines, ordinances, and moral discipline, we do believe that the divinely instituted ministry are the divinely authorized expounders; and that the duty of maintaining them in their purity, and of not permitting our ministrations in these respects to be authoritatively controlled by others, does rest upon us with the force of a moral obligation."

EXPULSION.

The resources of peaceable reform would thus seem to have been exhausted. But it is probable that the protestants would have continued discussion and petition indefinitely had they been permitted. It is certain that they professed again and again their loyalty to the Church, and their strong desire to remain in its communion. But this they were not allowed to do. Immediately after the "Mutual Rights" began to be circulated, and Union Societies began to be formed, members of the Church in various sections of the country were threatened by their pastors with expulsion unless they would cease to read the "Mutual Rights" and withdraw from the Union Societies.

When they were brought to trial and insisted on being informed what law of the Church or of the Bible they had violated, they were referred to a clause of one of the "General Rules" of John and Charles Wesley, which forbids "speaking evil of Magistrates or of Ministers" and to a regulation of the General Conference forbidding "inveighing against either our Doctrines or Discipline," which the General Conference itself declared admitted of no other construction than "the sense of un-Christian railing and violence."

One Annual Conference went a step further, and replied through its presiding bishop to the demand of an accused minister to know what law of the Discipline he had violated, that "An Annual Confer-

ence has authority to make rules and regulations for its own members."

These facts would seem to show that the majority were not careful to find the violated law. They had an occasion and they had the power. Their determination was voiced by one of their leaders as follows: "You publish the 'Mutual Rights' and say you will not discontinue that publication. You also say you will not withdraw from the Methodist Episcopal Church. Now we are reduced to one of two alternatives, either to let you remain members of the Church and go on peaceably publishing the 'Mutual Rights' by which you agitate the Church, or expel you. We have come to the determination to take the latter alternative, and expel you."

It seems difficult to believe, but it is the literal fact of history, that this ruthless determination was rigorously executed. In North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and the District of Columbia, able and efficient ministers, prominent and devoted laymen, men who lived blameless and pious lives and against whom no charge of heresy or immoral conduct could be brought, were excommunicated because they read and recommended to their friends a religious newspaper in whose columns it was argued that laymen ought to be admitted into the councils of the Church.

The immediate effect of these expulsions was to convince Reformers that there was no hope of obtaining any change in the government, and they began to withdraw in considerable numbers in various parts of the country, both as a mark of their sympathy with their persecuted brethren, and as their final protest against a power that struck but would not hear.

ORGANIZATION.

As for the expelled and their friends, nothing remained but to form a new Church. They were Methodists, and the only Methodist Church in exist-

ence had cast them out. They had no controversy with Methodism, for its doctrines and spirit and experience were their joy and their crown. But because they did not believe it was necessary for the lovely and free spirit of Methodism to be cast in the mold of absolutism, and because they could not consent to the suppression of free speech in behalf of free suffrage, they sorrowfully took up the task of organizing a new Church, which should hold fast to all the distinctive features of Methodism, and at the same time ally it to all the great heritage which Protestantism had bequeathed to the world; which two ideas they sought to express in its name.

Reformers throughout the country were invited to send delegates to a convention to meet in Baltimore, November 12th, 1828. This convention effected a provisional organization under the title of "The Associated Methodist Churches," adopted Articles of Association covering the main features of a church to serve until a Constitution could be matured, and called another convention to meet in 1830.

Meanwhile local churches were gathered, and annual conferences organized; and when the General Conference met in St. John's Church, Baltimore, Maryland, November 2d, 1830, fourteen Annual Conferences were represented by one hundred and fourteen delegates.

The title "Methodist Protestant Church" was substituted for the former title, and the Constitution and Discipline adopted substantially as it still remains.

And so at last the long controversy was closed. The desire of the Reformers to remain in the old Church, and accomplish changes in its government by the peaceable methods of discussion, was not realized. But perhaps it was better so. Set free from the past, albeit by the stern mandate of an angry authority, they were now disentangled from the American as well as the English hierarchy, and

at liberty to recur to the advice of Mr. Wesley, which the Conference of 1784 had strangely ignored, and "simply to follow the Scriptures and the primitive Church" in laying the foundations of the new ecclesiasticism. That they did this completely would be too much for uninspired judgment to claim; but that they earnestly desired to do it, and welcomed discussion or even change of what they did when shown a better way, is asserted with confidence.

OUTLINE OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CONSTITUTION.

They drew up a Constitution which recognized Christ as the only Head of the Church, and all elders in the Church as equal, which secured to every adult layman the right to vote and to be represented in every church meeting, and to every itinerant the right of appeal from an oppressive appointment and a veto upon his removal from ■ charge while in the faithful discharge of his duty, until the expiration of his term; which made Church trials for matters of opinion impossible, and gave to every accused person the right to challenge his jurors and appeal from their verdict; which refused the modern episcopacy and the presiding eldership as unnecessary; which guarded, as a necessary part of organic law, the rights and privileges of individual members and local churches as carefully as those of the Annual and General Conferences, and yet bound all parts of the system together in lawful and loyal co-operation for the advancement of the common good. In fine, they built a Representative Church. And, not being Englishmen, but Americans; having no traditional prejudices in favor of a divine-right monarchy or a divine-right hierarchy, they took for their model "the church without a bishop, and the state without a king," which had been planted in this new continent at the expense of so much treasure and blood.

They made a church government in harmony with the Republic to which they gave their glad allegiance as citizens; and in conformity, so far as they understood them, with the principles of the Kingdom of God.

THE CONSTITUTION

OF THE

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH

CONSTITUTION

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLES.

We, the representatives of the Associated Methodist Churches, in General Convention assembled, acknowledging the Lord Jesus Christ as the only Head of the Church, and the Word of God as the only sufficient rule of faith and practice in all things pertaining to godliness; and being fully persuaded that the representative form of church government is the most scriptural, best suited to our condition, and most congenial with our views and feelings as fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; and, whereas, a written constitution, establishing the form of government, and securing to the ministers and members of the church their rights and privileges, is the best safeguard of Christian liberty; we therefore, trusting in the protection of Almighty God, and acting in the name and by the authority of our constituents, do ordain and establish, and agree to be governed by the following elementary principles and Constitution:

1. A Christian Church is a society of believers in Jesus Christ, and is of Divine institution.

2. Christ is the only Head of the Church, and the Word of God the only rule of faith and conduct.

3. No person who loves the Lord Jesus Christ, and obeys the Gospel of God our Saviour, ought to be deprived of church membership.

4. Every man has an inalienable right to private judgment in matters of religion, and an equal right to express his opinion in any way which will not violate the laws of God, or the rights of his fellow-men.

5. Church trials should be conducted on Gospel principles only; and no minister or member should

be excommunicated except for immorality; the propagation of unchristian doctrines; or the neglect of duties enjoined by the Word of God.

6. The pastoral or ministerial office and duties are of Divine appointment; and all elders in the Church of God are equal; but ministers are forbidden to be lords over God's heritage, or to have dominion over the faith of the saints.

7. The church has a right to form and enforce such rules and regulations only as are in accordance with the Holy Scriptures, and may be necessary, or have a tendency to carry into effect the great system of practical Christianity.

8. Whatever power may be necessary to the formation of rules and regulations is inherent in the ministers and members of the church; but so much of that power may be delegated, from time to time, upon such a plan of representation as they may judge necessary and proper.

9. It is the duty of all ministers and members of the church to maintain godliness, and to oppose all moral evil.

10. It is obligatory on ministers of the Gospel to be faithful in the discharge of their pastoral and ministerial duties; and it is also obligatory on the members to esteem ministers highly for their works' sake, and to render them a righteous compensation for their labors.

11. The church ought to secure to all her official bodies the necessary authority for the purpose of good government; but she has no right to create any distinct or independent sovereignties.

ARTICLE I.

TITLE.

This Association shall be denominated The Methodist Protestant Church.

ARTICLE II.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP.

1. The conditions required of those who apply for probationary membership in a church are a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and be saved by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, with an avowed determination to walk in all the commandments of God blameless.

2. The churches shall have power to receive members, on profession of faith, or on certificate of good standing in any other Christian church; provided they are satisfied with the Christian experience of the candidate.

3. Children of our members, and those under their guardianship, shall be recognized as enjoying probationary privileges, and held as candidates for membership, and should, with the consent of their parents or guardians, be put into classes as such.

ARTICLE III.

DIVISION INTO DISTRICTS, STATIONS AND CIRCUITS

1. Those parts of the United States embraced by this church shall be divided into districts, having respectively such boundaries as may be agreed on at this Convention, subject to those alterations which may be made or authorized from time to time by the General Conference.

2. Each district shall be divided into stations, circuits and missions by its Annual Conference.

3. Every minister or preacher (a minister is one who is ordained; a preacher acts under a license), removing from one district to another, and every member removing from one pastoral charge to another, having a certificate of his or her good standing, shall be eligible to membership in any other district or pastoral charge within the limits of this church, by the consent of the district or pastoral charge to which he or she may apply for membership.

ARTICLE IV.

ON RECEIVING CHURCHES, ETC.

1. Any number of believers united as a church, embracing the principles of religious truth held by this church, adopting this constitution, and conforming to our Book of Discipline and means of grace shall, at their request made to the President of an Annual Conference, or a pastor of a station or circuit, be recognized as a Methodist Protestant Church and be entitled to all the privileges granted by this Constitution; subject, however, to the decision of the nearest Quarterly Conference.

2. A church shall be composed of members residing sufficiently near each other to assemble statedly for public worship, and of sufficient number to fill the offices and to transact its temporal business. And every church, when it becomes necessary, shall be divided into smaller companies or classes, for the purposes of religious instruction and edification.

3. Each church shall have power to purchase, build, lease, sell, rent, or otherwise dispose of church property for the use and benefit of the Methodist Protestant Church, when authorized by the affirmative vote of a majority of all the qualified members of the church; provided that said vote be given in person at a meeting publicly called for the purpose four weeks in advance, or any adjournment from time to time thereof.

4. Each church shall also have power to admit persons into full membership; and to try, censure or expel unworthy members, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and the Rules of Discipline.

5. It is required of all churches, as a condition of remaining connected with the general body, that they continue to conform to this Constitution and the regulations contained in the Book of Discipline.

ARTICLE V.

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

There shall be in every station a meeting of the ministers, preachers and members of the church, to be styled the monthly meeting, at which reports shall be received from the leaders, stewards and superintendents of Sabbath-schools, and in which inquiry shall be made respecting the sick, poor and such as require pastoral attention. The pastor, if present, shall preside and endeavor to make the occasion one of spiritual profit as well as of advantage to the temporal economy of the church. It is recommended that monthly meetings be held in circuits and missions wherever practicable.

ARTICLE VI.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCES.

1. There shall be four Quarterly Conferences in each station, circuit and mission in every conference year which shall be composed of all the ministers, preachers, exhorters, trustees, stewards, treasurer, leaders, Sabbath-school superintendents, and presidnets of the Christian Endeavor societies, of the Ladies' Aid Society, of the Woman's Missionary Society (*), of the Brotherhood or Laymen's Fellowship, and of the Deaconess Circle, in full membership, belonging to the station or circuit; provided, that the pastor, or five members of the Quarterly Conference, shall have authority to call special meetings of the Quarterly Conference at other times when circumstances make it necessary.

2. Each Quarterly Conference shall be vested with power to examine into the official character of its members, and to admonish and reprove, as occasion may require; to grant to persons properly qualified and recommended by the class of which the ap-

(*) By action of the General Conference the words "of the Woman's Missionary Society" shall be interpreted to mean "of the Woman's Auxiliary".

plicants are members license to preach or exhort; to renew licenses annually; to admit ministers and preachers coming from any other church; to recommend ministers and preachers to the Annual Conference for the itinerancy and for ordination; to hear and decide on appeals; and to perform such other duties as are authorized by this Constitution and Discipline. Provided, nevertheless, that no person shall be licensed to preach until he shall have been first examined and recommended by a committee of five, composed of ministers and laymen, chosen by the Quarterly Conference.

ARTICLE VII.

COMPOSITION AND POWERS OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES.

1. There shall be held annually within the limits of each district a Conference, to be denominated the Annual Conference, composed of all the itinerant ministers belonging to the district; that is, all ministers properly under the stationing authority of the Conference; and of one delegate from each station, circuit and mission for each of its itinerant ministers, except superannuates, supernumeraries, ministers left without appointment at their own request, and ministers left in the hands of the President; provided, however, that every station and circuit shall have at least one delegate. Each Annual Conference shall regulate the manner of election in its own district.

2. Each Annual Conference shall be vested with power to elect a president annually; to receive, by vote, such ministers and preachers into the Conference as come properly recommended, and who can be efficiently employed as itinerant preachers; to elect to orders those who are eligible and competent to the pastoral office; to hear and decide on appeals; to define and regulate the boundaries of stations and circuits; to station the ministers and preachers; to make such rules and regulations as

may be necessary to defray the expenses of the itinerant ministers, preachers and their families; to raise the amount of their salaries, and for all other purposes connected with the organization and continuance of said Conference; and to perform such other duties as are prescribed by the Constitution and Discipline, or may be prescribed by the General Conference.

3. The Annual Conferences, respectively, shall also have authority to perform the following additional duties:

First. To make such special rules and regulations as the peculiarities of the district may require; provided, however, that no rule or regulation be made inconsistent with this Constitution. And provided, furthermore, that the General Conference shall have power to annul any rule or regulation which that body may deem unconstitutional.

Second. To prescribe and regulate the mode of stationing the ministers and preachers within the district; provided, always, that they grant to each minister or preacher stationed the right of appeal during the sitting of the Conference.

Third. To set off home missions and provide for their proper regulation and their representation in the respective Annual Conferences.

But neither the General Conference nor any Annual Conference shall assume power to interfere with the constitutional powers of the civil government, or with the operation of the civil laws; yet nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to authorize or sanction any thing inconsistent with the morality of the Holy Scriptures.

4. Each Annual Conference shall keep a journal of its proceedings and send a copy for the quadrennium, properly authenticated, either written or printed, to the General Conference,

ARTICLE VIII.

COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

1. There shall be a General Conference of this Church on the third Wednesday in May, in the year of our Lord, 1924, and on the third Wednesday in May, every fourth year thereafter, in such place as the Conference may determine.

2. The General Conference shall consist of an equal number of ministers and laymen. The ratio of representation from each Annual Conference district shall be one minister and one layman for each two thousand persons in full membership; provided, that every Conference district having one thousand or more over two thousand shall be entitled to an additional delegation of one minister and one layman; and, provided further, that every Annual Conference district that may not have two thousand members shall be entitled to two representatives, one minister and one layman, until a different ratio shall be fixed by the General Conference.

3. The representatives to which each district may be entitled shall be elected on Friday at two o'clock P. M., at the meeting of the Annual Conference, by the ministers and delegates belonging to said Annual Conference. The ministers and delegates shall vote as one body, and a majority of the whole vote shall constitute an election. But if a majority of the ministers, or a majority of the delegates demand it, the ministers and delegates shall vote separately, and the concurrence of a majority of both ministers and delegates shall be necessary to constitute an election.

4. The General Conference shall elect, by ballot, a president to preside over its deliberations, and a secretary to serve during the sitting of the Conference, and shall also judge of election returns and qualifications of its own members, and form its own rules of order. A majority of all the representatives in attendance shall constitute a quorum.

5. The ministers and laymen shall deliberate in one body, but if, upon the final passage of any question, it be required by a majority of the ministers, or a majority of the laymen present, the ministers, and laymen shall vote separately, and the concurrence of a majority of both classes of representatives shall be necessary to constitute a vote of the Conference. A similar regulation shall be observed by the Annual Conferences.

6. The yeas and nays shall be recorded at the call of one-fifth part of the members present.

7. The Conference shall publish such parts of the journal of its proceedings as it may deem requisite.

8. All papers, books or other property belonging to the Conference shall be preserved as that body may direct.

ARTICLE IX.

POWERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

1. The General Conference shall have power to make rules and regulations for every department of the church recognized by this Constitution.

2. To regulate, from time to time, the number of representatives to the General Conference.

3. To define the boundaries of Annual Conference Districts; provided, however, that the Annual Conferences of any two or more districts shall have power, by mutual agreement, to alter their respective adjoining boundaries, or to set off a new district; but every alteration shall be reported to the ensuing General Conference for its action.

ARTICLE X.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES.

1. No rule shall be passed which shall contravene any law of God.

2. No rule shall be passed which shall infringe the right of suffrage, eligibility to office, or the

rights and privileges of our ministers, preachers and members to an impartial trial by committee, and of an appeal, as provided by this Constitution.

3. No rule shall be passed infringing the liberty of speech, or of the press; but for every abuse of liberty the offender shall be dealt with as in other cases of indulging in sinful words and tempers.

4. No rule, except it be founded on the Holy Scriptures, shall be passed authorizing the expulsion of any minister, preacher or member.

5. No rule shall be passed appropriating the funds of the church to any purpose except the support of the ministers, their wives, widows and children, the promotion of education and missions, the diffusion of useful knowledge, the necessary expenses consequent on assembling the Conferences, and the relief of the poor.

6. No higher order of ministers shall be authorized than that of elder.

7. No rule shall be passed to abolish an efficient itinerancy. Each Annual Conference shall have authority to determine for itself whether any limit, or, if any, what limit shall be to the renewal of annual appointments.

8. No change shall be made in the relative proportions or component parts of the General or Annual Conferences.

ARTICLE XI.

OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH.

PRESIDENTS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCES.

1. The President of each Annual Conference shall be elected annually, by the ballot of a majority of the members of the Conference. He shall not be eligible more than five years successively; and shall be amenable to that body for his official conduct.

2. It shall be the duty of the President of an Annual Conference to preside at all meetings of that body, and, when required by the Conference, to

travel through the district, visit all the stations and circuits, be present, as far as practicable, at all the quarterly meetings, and camp-meetings of his district; and in the recess of Conference, with the assistance of two or more elders, to ordain those persons who may be elected to orders; to employ such ministers and preachers as are duly recommended; and to make such changes of preachers as may be necessary; provided, the consent of said preachers and their charges be first obtained; and to perform such other duties as may be required by his Annual Conference.

MINISTERS.

1. The minister who shall be appointed by the Annual Conference to the charge of a station or circuit shall be styled the pastor, and shall be amenable to the Annual Conference for his official conduct.

2. The minister or preacher appointed by the Annual Conference to assist the pastor in the discharge of his pastoral duties shall be styled the associate pastor, and shall be amenable to the Annual Conference for the faithful discharge of duty.

3. It shall be the duty of every minister and preacher belonging to a station or circuit to render all the pastoral assistance he can, consistently with his other engagements, but no minister or preacher shall be accountable to the Annual Conference for the discharge of ministerial duty, except he be an itinerant minister or preacher; all others shall be accountable to the Quarterly Conference of the station or circuit.

4. No person shall be recognized as an itinerant minister, preacher, or missionary whose name is not enrolled on the Annual Conference list, or who will not be subject to the order of the Conference.

CLASS LEADERS.

The class leaders shall be elected annually by the members of their respective classes; but if in any

instance a class shall neglect or refuse to elect a leader, when one is wanted, after being duly notified by the pastor, it shall then be the duty of the pastor to appoint a class leader for said class.

CONFERENCE TREASURER.

The Conference Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Annual Conference, and shall discharge the duties assigned to him by that body, and be amenable to it for his official conduct.

STATION AND CIRCUIT STEWARDS.

The Station and Circuit Stewards shall be elected annually by the qualified members, including ministers and preachers. In circuits and missions the qualified members of each society shall elect the steward or stewards thereof.

TREASURERS

Each church shall elect a treasurer who shall have charge of the funds of the church and who by virtue of his office shall be a member of the quarterly conference.

Where two treasurers are needed, one may hold the funds of the local church while the other may care for the Benevolences.

ARTICLE XII.

SUFFRAGE AND ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE.

The matter of suffrage and eligibility to office shall be left to the Annual Conferences respectively; provided, that each Annual Conference shall be entitled to representation in the same ratio in the General Conference; and provided, that no rule shall be passed which shall infringe the right of suffrage or eligibility to office.

ARTICLE XIII.

JUDICIARY PRINCIPLES.

1. All offences condemned by the Word of God, as being sufficient to exclude a person from the

kingdom of grace and glory, shall subject ministers, preachers and members to expulsion from the church.

2. The neglect of duties required by the Word of God, or the indulgence in sinful words and tempers, shall subject the offender to admonition; and if persisted in after repeated admonitions, to expulsion.

3. For preaching or disseminating unscriptural doctrines affecting the essential interests of the Christian system, ministers, preachers and members shall be liable to admonition; and, if incorrigible, to expulsion; provided, always, that no minister, preacher or member shall be expelled for disseminating matters of opinion alone, except they be such as are condemned by the Word of God.

4. All officers of the church shall be liable to removal from office for maladministration, and for neglect of official duties.

ARTICLE XIV.

PRIVILEGES OF ACCUSED MINISTERS AND MEMBERS.

1. In all cases of accusation against a minister, preacher, or member, the accused shall be furnished by the pastor, or, in his absence, by any other minister belonging to the circuit or station, whom the pastor may select, with a copy of the charges and specifications, at least twenty days before the time appointed for the trial; unless the parties concerned prefer going to trial on shorter notice. The accused shall have the right of challenge; the privilege of examining witnesses at the time of trial, and of making his defence in person or by representative; provided such representative be a member of the Methodist Protestant Church.

2. No minister or preacher shall be expelled, or deprived of church privileges or ministerial functions, without an impartial trial before a committee—if a minister, of from three to five ministers;

if a preacher, of from three to five ministers or preachers—and the right of appeal; the unstationed preachers, to the ensuing Quarterly Conference; the ministers and itinerant preachers to the ensuing Annual Conference.

3. No member shall be expelled or deprived of church privileges without an impartial trial before a committee of three or more lay members, or if on a circuit, before the society of which he is a member, as the accused may require, and the right of an appeal to the ensuing Quarterly Conference; but no man who shall have sat on the first trial shall sit on the appeal; and all appeals shall be final. Provided, that persons whose names are on the church register, and cannot be found, may be dropped from the record by a vote of the church; provided, further, that in stations these changes may be made by the Quarterly Conference. But any person whose name has been dropped shall, upon application to the pastor, have his name restored.

4. No minister or preacher who may have been suspended by a committee, and who has appealed from its decision, shall perform any of the duties of his office while his appeal is pending; and no person who sat on the case in committee, or who was the accuser, shall vote on the appeal. Provided, that when a charge of unfaithfulness to the interests of the church is preferred, the trial shall be had within twenty days from the time the charge was preferred.

ARTICLE XV.

DISCIPLINE JUDICIARY.

1. Whenever a majority of all the Annual Conferences shall officially call for a judicial decision on any rule or act of the General Conference, it shall be the duty of each and every Annual Conference to appoint, at its next session, two judicial delegates, one minister and one layman, having the same qual-

ifications of eligibility as are required for representatives to the General Conference. The delegates thus chosen shall assemble at the place where the General Conference held its last session, on the third Wednesday in May following their appointment.

2. A majority of the delegates shall constitute a quorum; and if two-thirds of all present judge said rule or act of the General Conference unconstitutional, they shall have power to declare the same null and void.

3. Every decision of the judiciary, with the reasons thereof, shall be in writing, and shall be published in the periodicals belonging to this church. After the judiciary shall have performed the duties assigned it by this Constitution, its powers shall cease; and no other judiciary shall be created until after the session of the succeeding General Conference.

ARTICLE XVI.

SPECIAL CALL OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

1. Two-thirds of the whole number of the Annual Conferences shall have power to call special meetings of the General Conference.

2. When it shall have been ascertained that two-thirds of the Annual Conferences have decided in favor of such call, it shall be the duty of the presidents, or a majority of them, forthwith to designate the time and place of holding the same, and to give due notice to all stations, circuits and missions.

ARTICLE XVII.

PROVISION FOR ALTERING THE CONSTITUTION.

1. Alterations of this Constitution may be effected by means of overtures, submitted by the General Conference, and confirmed by two-thirds of the Annual Conferences.

2. When a change in the Constitution has been so recommended the Annual Conference shall officially certify their action on the same to the President of the General Conference, who, when two-thirds of the Annual Conferences shall have certified their affirmative action, shall announce the facts in the official papers, and the change so made in the Constitution shall be in full force and effect from that time, and shall be entered in the Book of Discipline by the Committee on Publication.

ARTICLES OF RELIGION
OF THE
METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH

ARTICLES OF RELIGION

I. OF FAITH IN THE HOLY TRINITY.

There is but one living and true God, everlasting, of infinite power, wisdom and goodness, the maker and preserver of all things, visible and invisible. And in unity of this Godhead, there are three persons of one substance, power and eternity—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

II. OF THE WORD. OR THE SON OF GOD, WHO WAS MADE VERY MAN.

The Son, who is the Word of the Father, the very and eternal God, of one substance with the Father, took man's nature so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say. the Godhead and manhood, were joined together in one person, never to be divided, whereof is one Christ, very God and very man who truly suffered. was crucified, dead, and buried, to reconcile us to God, and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for the actual sins of men.

III. OF THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST.

Christ did truly rise again from the dead, and took again his body, with all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature, wherewith he ascended into heaven, and there sitteth until he return to judge all men at the last day.

IV. OF THE HOLY GHOST.

The Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son is of one substance, majesty and glory with the Father and the Son, very and eternal God.

V. THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
FOR SALVATION.

The Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation. In the name of the Holy Scriptures, we do understand those canonical books of the Old and New Testament, of whose authority was never any doubt in the church.

The names of the canonical books are: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, the First Book of Samuel, the Second Book of Samuel, the First Book of Kings, the Second Book of Kings, the First Book of Chronicles, the Second Book of Chronicles, the Book of Ezra, the Book of Nehemiah, the Book of Esther, the Book of Job, the Psalms, the Proverbs, Ecclesiastes (or the Preacher), Cantica (or Song of Solomon), Four Prophets the Greater, Twelve Prophets the Less; all the Books of the New Testament, as they are commonly received, we do receive and account canonical.

VI. OF THE OLD TESTAMENT.

The Old Testament is not contrary to the New; for in both the Old and New Testament everlasting life is offered to mankind by Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and man, being both God and man. Wherefore they are not to be heard who feign that the old fathers did look for only transitory promises. Although the law given from God by Moses as touching ceremonies and rites doth not bind Christians, nor ought the civil precepts thereof of necessity be received in any commonwealth, yet notwithstanding, no Christian whatsoever is free from obedience of the commandments which are called moral.

VII. OF ORIGINAL SIN.

Original sin is the corruption of the nature of every man that naturally is engendered of the offspring of Adam, whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and of his own nature inclined to evil, and that continually.

VIII. OF FREE WILL.

The condition of man after the fall of Adam is such that he cannot turn and prepare himself, by his own natural strength and works, to faith and calling upon God; wherefore, we have no power to do good works, pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ enabling us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.

IX. OF JUSTIFICATION.

We are accounted righteous before God, only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by faith, and not for our own works or deservings. Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only is ■ most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort.

X. OF SANCTIFICATION.

Sanctification is that renewal of our fallen nature by the Holy Ghost, received through faith in Jesus Christ, whose blood of atonement cleanseth from all sin; whereby we are not only delivered from the guilt of sin, but are washed from its pollution, saved from its power, and are enabled, through grace, to love God with all our hearts and to walk in his holy commandments blameless.

XI. OF GOOD WORKS.

Although good works, which are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God's

judgments; yet they are pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and spring out of a true and lively faith, insomuch that by them a lively faith may be as evidently known as a tree is discerned by its fruit.

XII. OF WORKS OF SUPEREROGATION.

Voluntary works—besides, over and above God's commandments—which are called works of supererogation, cannot be taught without arrogancy and impiety. For by them men do declare that they do not only render unto God as much as they are bound to do, but that they do more for his sake than of bounden duty is required: whereas, Christ saith plainly, "When ye have done all that is commanded of you, say, 'We are unprofitable servants.'"

XIII. OF SIN AFTER JUSTIFICATION.

Not every sin willingly committed after justification is the sin against the Holy Ghost, and unpardonable. Wherefore, the grant of repentance is not to be denied to such as fall into sin after iustification. After we have received the Holy Ghost, we may depart from grace given, and fall into sin, and by the grace of God rise again and amend our lives. And therefore they are to be condemned who say they can no more sin as long as they live here; or deny the place of forgiveness to such as truly repent.

XIV. OF THE CHURCH.

The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men in which the pure Word of God is preached, and the ordinances duly administered according to Christ's command in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.

XV. OF PURGATORY.

The Romish doctrine concerning purgatory, pardon, worshiping and adoration, as well of images, as of relics, and also invocation of saints, is a fond thing vainly invented and grounded upon no warrant of Scripture, but repugnant to the Word of God.

XVI. OF SPEAKING.

It is a thing plainly repugnant to the Word of God, and the custom of the primitive church, to have the public prayer in the church, or to minister the ordinances, in a tongue not understood by the people.

XVII. OF THE ORDINANCES.

Ordinances of Christ are not only badges or tokens of Christian men's professions; but rather they are certain signs of grace and God's good-will towards us, by which he doth work invisibly in us, and doth not only quicken, but also strengthen and confirm our faith in him.

There are two ordinances of Christ our Lord in the Gospel; that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord.

XVIII. OF BAPTISM.

Baptism is not only a sign of profession and mark of difference whereby Christians are distinguished from others that are not baptized; but it is also a sign of regeneration or the new birth. The baptism of young children is to be retained in the church.

XIX. OF THE LORD'S SUPPER.

The Supper of the Lord is not only a sign of the love that Christians ought to have among themselves one to another, but rather is an ordinance of our redemption by Christ's death; insomuch, that to such as rightly, worthily, and with faith receive the same, the bread which we break is a partaking

of the body of Christ; and likewise the cup of blessing is the partaking of the blood of Christ.

Transubstantiation, or the change of the substance of bread and wine in the Supper of our Lord, cannot be proved by Holy Writ, but is repugnant to the plain words of Scripture, overthroweth the nature of the ordinance, and hath given occasion to many superstitions.

The body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten in the Supper, only after a heavenly and spiritual manner. And the means whereby the body of Christ is received and eaten in the Supper is faith.

The Lord's Supper was not by Christ's ordinance reserved, carried about, lifted up, or worshiped.

XX. OF BOTH KINDS.

The cup of the Lord is not to be denied to the lay people; for both the parts of the Lord's Supper by Christ's ordinance and commandment ought to be administered to all Christians alike.

XXI. OF THE ONE OBLATION OF CHRIST FINISHED ON THE CROSS.

The offering of Christ, once made, is that perfect redemption, propitiation and satisfaction for all the sins of the whole world, both original and actual; and there is none other satisfaction for sin but that alone. Wherefore the sacrifice of masses, in the which it is commonly said that the priest doth offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, is a blasphemous fable and dangerous deceit.

XXII. OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD.

There will be a general resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust, at which time the souls and bodies of men will be reunited to receive together a just retribution for the deeds done in the body in this life.

XXIII. OF THE GENERAL JUDGMENT.

There will be a General Judgment at the end of the world, when God will judge all men by Jesus Christ, and receive the righteous unto his heavenly kingdom, where they shall be forever secure and happy; and adjudge the wicked to everlasting punishment suited to the demerit of their sins.

XXIV. OF THE MARRIAGE OF MINISTERS.

The ministers of Christ are not commanded by God's law either to vow the state of single life, or to abstain from marriage; therefore it is lawful for them, as for all other Christians, to marry at their own discretion, as they shall judge the same to serve best to godliness.

XXV. OF THE RITES AND CEREMONIES OF CHURCHES.

It is not necessary that rites and ceremonies should in all places be the same, or exactly alike; for they have been always different, and may be changed according to the diversity of countries, times and men's manners, so that nothing be ordained against God's Word. Whosoever, through his private judgment, willingly and purposely doth openly break the rites and ceremonies of the Church to which he belongs, which are not repugnant to the Word of God, and are ordained and approved by common authority, ought to be rebuked openly (that others may fear to do the like), as one that offendeth against the common order of the Church, and woundeth the consciences of weak brethren.

XXVI. OF THE RULERS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The President, the Congress, the General Assemblies, the Governors and the Councils of State, as the delegates of the people, are the rulers of the United States of America, according to the division

of power made to them by the Constitution of the United States, and by the Constitutions of their respective states. And the said states are a sovereign and independent nation.

XXVII. OF CHRISTIAN MEN'S GOODS.

The riches and goods of Christians are not common, as touching the right, title and possession of the same, as some do falsely boast. Notwithstanding, every man ought, of such things as he possesseth, liberally to give alms to the poor, according to his ability.

XXVIII. OF A CHRISTIAN MAN'S OATH.

As we confess that vain and rash swearing is forbidden Christian men by our Lord Jesus Christ, and James his Apostle, so we judge that the Christian religion doth not prohibit, but that a man may swear, or affirm, when the magistrate requireth, in a cause of faith and charity, so it be done according to the prophet's teaching, in justice, judgment and truth.

*(Note affixed by The General Conference
at Baltimore, 1884.)*

These articles of religion set forth the doctrinal teachings of the Methodist Protestant Church, and those who enter the ministry thereof thereby avow their acceptance of the teachings thus formulated; and good faith towards the Church forbids any teaching on their part which is at variance with them.

THE DISCIPLINE
OF THE
METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH

THE DISCIPLINE

CHAPTER ONE. ORGANIZATION

Section One. Admission to Membership

(See Constitution, Article II.)

¶ 1. Application for admission to membership in any station, circuit or mission must be made to the pastor, the associate, or the supernumerary associate, and in their absence to any other minister, preacher, or leader officiating, whose duty it shall be to report the name or names of applicants to the pastor, to be by him entered on the list of probationers. In the event of any objection being made by any person present, the matter shall be referred to a called or regularly occurring meeting of the church. Beyond the bounds of stations and circuits, application may be made to any minister, preacher, or leader of our church. On an application for full membership, a vote of the church shall be taken.

¶ 2. The children of members of our church shall be under pastoral care and instruction with a view to their admission into full membership; and they shall be received into full membership, on application, if the church is satisfied with their spiritual experience.

¶ 3. Members of the church who remove from the community without taking a certificate shall be given pastoral care through correspondence by the pastor, and if they manifest an interest in the church and desire to be continued as members shall remain on the register. But such members, and members remaining in the community but absenting themselves from the church services and failing to give to the support of the church or to co-operate with

the church in Christian work for more than one year, shall be visited by the pastor or written to by him if residing elsewhere and appealed to in loving solicitude for their loyalty to their Lord and to the church and to resume active relations to the church. If after six months, no change is manifest, it shall be the duty of the quarterly conference to address to each of such members a kind and Christian letter calling attention to their loss and the loss to the church of such neglect, and beseeching them not to abandon the hope of their calling in Christ Jesus, and admonishing them that if no change is made by them within six months the church will be compelled to regard their silence to mean that they wish to end their communion with us, and to drop their names from our register. If, after another interval of six months any member thus advised still manifests no interest, it shall be the duty of the pastor to report their names to the church and to show that the requirements of this section have been complied with, and the church shall have authority then to vote whether such members shall be continued or dropped. In the case of stations this action may be taken by the quarterly conference.

Section 2. Christian Duties

The following suggestions, derived mainly from the General Rules of John and Charles Wesley, are commended to the serious attention of the members of the Methodist Protestant Church.

"It is expected that all members of our Societies will continue to evidence their desire for salvation. **First,** By doing no harm, but avoid evil of every kind; especially those evils most generally practiced; such as—

The taking of the name of God in vain.

The profaning of the day of the Lord by ordinary work, or by buying or selling therein.

Drunkenness, or the manufacturing, buying, selling or using intoxicating liquors, unless for mechan-

ical or medicinal purposes, or intentionally aiding others to do so.

Fighting, quarrelling, brawling, brother going to law with brother, returning evil for evil, or railing for railing; the using of many words in buying or selling.

Uncharitable or unprofitable conversation, or indulgence in those worldly amusements which do not tend to the glory of God, and which cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus—such as card playing, dancing, games of chance and attending circuses and theatrical performances (and the use of tobacco).

Doing unto others as we would not they should do unto us.

Borrowing without a probability of paying; or taking up goods without a probability of paying for them.

Secondly, By doing good; by being in every kind merciful after their power; as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all men:

To their bodies, of the ability which God giveth, by giving food to the hungry, by clothing the naked, by visiting or helping them that are sick or in prison.

To their souls, by instructing, reproving or exhorting all we have any intercourse with; trampling under foot that erroneous doctrine that "We are not to do good unless our hearts be free to it;"

By doing good, especially to them that are of the household of faith, or groaning so to be; employing them preferably to others, buying one of another, helping each other in business, and so much the more because the world will love its own;

By all possible diligence and frugality, that the Gospel be not blamed;

By running with patience the race that is set before us, denying ourselves and taking up our cross daily, submitting to bear the reproach of Christ; to be as the filth and offscouring of the world, and

looking that men should "say all manner of evil of us falsely, for the Lord's sake."

Third, By attending upon all the ordinances of God; such are,

The public worship of God; the ministry of the Word, either read or expounded; contributing of our substance for the support of the same; Baptism and the Supper of the Lord; family and private prayer; searching the Scriptures and meditating thereon."

Section Three. The Annual Church Meeting

(See Constitution, Article V.)

The last monthly meeting in each year shall be styled, The Annual Church Meeting, at which time the officers shall be elected, unless their election shall be otherwise provided for. All officers, departments, boards, and all auxiliary and affiliated societies shall submit reports for the year, of work done and money received and disbursed, and also make recommendations and suggestions for the future, if they desire. The data so reported may be used by the pastor in making his report to the Annual Conference. These reports shall be audited by a Committee previously appointed.

Section Four. The Quarterly Conference

(See Constitution, Article VI.)

¶ 1. The Quarterly Conference shall be called to order by the pastor, who shall preside; the president of the Annual Conference shall preside when present. But if neither of these officers be present, the Quarterly Conference shall elect a chairman. The Conference shall be opened by reading the Scripture and prayer. The first Quarterly Conference in each year shall elect a secretary, whose term of office shall continue until the election of his successor, the succeeding year,

Any number of the officary present at a duly called meeting shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 2. Should a charge of immorality, neglect of Christian duty, or of disseminating unscriptural doctrines be preferred against a member of the Conference during the examination of official character, the accusation, together with the names of the accuser and witnesses, shall be referred to the proper authorities to be investigated in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and the Discipline. When a case is so referred, a prosecutor shall be appointed by the Conference in behalf of the Church.

¶ 3. The first Quarterly Conference in each conference year shall elect a Standing Advisory Committee of from three to five, which shall assist the pastor by its advice and counsel in all important acts of his administration; it shall also appoint a committee of five, consisting of ministers and laymen, who shall constitute a committee of examination to assist, advise and examine candidates for the ministry. It shall be the duty of the committee to see that the candidates pursue the course of reading prescribed by the committee; to examine them occasionally on doctrines and religious experience; and when they shall have made the necessary attainments to give them a written testimonial of their qualifications. But no committee shall give a testimonial unless the candidate be a man of unexceptionable character, genuine piety and respectable attainments.

No person shall be licensed to preach without a testimonial from the committee of examination, nor shall his license be renewed without a recommendation from the said committee of examination.

The following questions shall be put to each candidate, and if he answer them satisfactorily he may be licensed:

Have you faith in Christ? Are you striving to be holy in heart, and in all manner of conversation?

Have you any motive in requesting license to

preach, other than a desire to be instrumental in edifying the Church of God, calling sinners to repentance, saving your own soul and the souls of those who hear you?

Do you believe that the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament contain all things necessary to salvation?

Have you examined our Constitution, Discipline and Articles of Religion?

Do you approve of them? Are you willing to comply with their requirements?

Are you solvent?

Candidates will also be required to pass an examination in Doctrines of the Bible, the history and polity of the Methodist Protestant Church, General History, and the English Language.

¶ 4. The last Quarterly Conference shall fix the pastor's salary for the ensuing year, and apportion the same to the several churches.

¶ 5. The place for holding the succeeding Quarterly Conferences shall be determined by the Conference and the time by the pastor. It shall be his duty to give public notice from all the pulpits, at least two weeks prior to the meeting of the Conference. Where there is no pastor, it may be competent for the stewards to call the Quarterly Conference.

¶ 6. In all appeals brought before the Quarterly Conference, the same order shall be observed, and the same privileges accorded to the appellant and accuser as are granted in appeals before the Annual Conference.

¶ 7. The Quarterly Conference, in conjunction with the pastor, shall have authority to receive ministers and preachers from other denominations, on satisfactory testimonials.

¶ 8. Each Quarterly Conference shall have supervisory authority over all the Sabbath schools belonging to the station, circuit or mission; to require

that our own papers and lesson helps be used; to provide that officers and teachers chosen be suitable persons in Christian experience, character and doctrinal belief and to secure the observance of such missionary, college and other anniversary days for making offerings, in support of the general interests of the church, as the General Conference may fix or order; and the respective superintendents thereof shall be elected by the Sabbath school officers and teachers after notice from the pulpit. Every qualified member of the church, if present, shall have the privilege of voting. The management of the Sunday school of the local church shall be in the hands of the Sunday school Board, which shall consist of the officers and teachers of the school. The pastor, being a member by virtue of his office, may preside at the meetings of this Board if he so desire. Provided that said Board shall be subject to the will of the quarterly conference of the charge.

In churches having a Board of Religious Education, this Board shall supervise all of the educational work of the church. The Board shall be elected by and be responsible to the Quarterly Conference. The pastor shall be its chairman. The Sabbath School superintendents, officers, and teachers shall be elected by this Board. It shall have all the supervisory authority over the Sabbath School that is held by the Quarterly Conference.

¶ 9. In every case where a parsonage belongs to a station or circuit, the Quarterly Conference shall have authority to elect, or cause to be elected, trustees thereof, in accordance with the statute laws of the State, to hold said property for the benefit of such charge. When parsonage property is to be purchased, leased, mortgaged or sold, it shall require a vote of a majority of the members of the Quarterly Conference, except where charters provide otherwise. Provided, that in stations it shall require a majority vote of all the qualified members of the church given in person at a meeting publicly called for the purpose four weeks in ad-

vance or any adjournment from time to time thereof.

¶ 10. No appointment shall be dropped from a circuit, except at the last Quarterly Conference. Provided, that said action shall not take effect until ratified by the Annual Conference.

¶ 11. The following Order of business is recommended to the Quarterly Conferences:

ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR QUARTERLY CONFERENCES

The Conference shall be opened by reading a portion of the Word of God and prayer after which the business shall proceed in the following order:

1. Call the roll, noting those present and absent.
2. Make necessary corrections in official list.
3. Read minutes of last meeting.
4. Consider objections to official character.
5. At the first quarterly conference elect a secretary, an advisory committee, and a committee on examination of candidates for the ministry.
6. Reports,
 - (a) from pastor and associates.
 - (b) from superannuates.
 - (c) from unstationed ministers, preachers and exhorters.
 - (d) from class leaders, S. S. Superintendents, presidents of C. E. Societies, of Ladies' Aid Society, of Woman's Missionary Society, and of the Brotherhood.
 - (e) from trustees and stewards.
 - (f) from the Church Treasurer.
7. Hear and decide on appeals.
8. Inquire faithfully whether candidates for exhorter's and preacher's license for itinerancy and orders, pursue the prescribed course of study and reading.
9. Grant and renew licenses.

10. Recommend to Board of Christian Education for aid to ministerial students.

11. Recommend for orders and itinerancy. Candidates for the itinerancy shall be required to answer affirmatively the following question: "Will you abstain from the use of tobacco."

12. Consider applications of ministers and preachers who desire to become members of this Quarterly Conference.

13. Hear suggestions from Advisory Committee.

14. Inquire why church property is not insured.

15. Examine and correct the Church Register.

16. Fix place for next Quarterly Conference.

17. Fix pastors salary for ensuing year.

18. Incidental business.

19. Benediction.

Section Five. The Annual Conference

(See Constitution, Article VII.)

¶ 1. The Conference shall be called to order by the President, who shall open it with religious services, and preside until the election of his successor. If the President is not present, the religious services shall be under the direction of the secretary; in the absence of both, a president and secretary (pro-tempore) shall be elected to serve until the Conference shall elect permanent officers.

¶ 2. The Conference shall be the judge of the qualifications of the delegates.

¶ 3. A majority of all the members in attendance shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 4. If during the examination of official character, a charge of immorality be preferred against a ministerial member of the Conference, an investigation shall be made into the case, and if the Conference sees sufficient reason to justify the charge, the accusation, together with the names of the accuser and the witnesses, shall be referred to the President of the Conference, who shall direct it to be investigated by a committee in the pastoral charge where the supposed offense is alleged to have been

committed, or as near thereto as may be convenient; and the Conference shall appoint a prosecutor in behalf of the church. When charges are preferred against a minister or preacher in the interval of Conference, the President shall appoint the prosecutor. The Annual Conference, respectively, shall provide for the payment of any expense incurred in bringing committees from a distance to take part in judicial investigations.

¶ 5. Ministers or preachers, in order to be eligible to membership in an Annual Conference, must have a written recommendation from a Quarterly Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, or a certificate from some other Annual Conference, or the president thereof, or suitable testimonial from some other ecclesiastical body. No minister shall be given a supernumerary or superannuated relation, except by vote of the Annual Conference.

¶ 6. No minister shall be recognized as belonging to our fellowship whose name is not recorded on the list of some Quarterly or Annual Conference, to which he is amenable, or who does not hold a valid certificate of transfer.

¶ 7. No Annual Conference shall receive any one who has been a student under the charge of one of the committee of examination of the Board of Education, without a testimonial of honorable dismissal from the committee.

¶ 8. No Conference shall withhold a testimonial, if the minister requiring it has complied with his engagements, and his moral character stands fair.

¶ 9. No Conference or president shall be obliged to employ any person as pastor or missionary unless his labors can be profitably directed, and no Conference shall employ or station a minister who has remarried after being divorced, unless he be the innocent party.

¶ 10. Every minister received by the president, during the interval of Conference, shall be subjected to a vote of the Conference before his name can be printed in the minutes as a stationed minister.

¶11. Ministers laboring under the direction of the Conference may be transferred from one district to another, by negotiations between the presidents of said districts; provided the minister consents to the transfer; and, provided, the instrument have the signature of both presidents; and provided that it be presented to the Annual Conference to which the minister is to be transferred before it shall have closed its session next following the date of the transfer, and receive the sanction of the Conference, otherwise it shall not be valid; and provided further that if such transfer be not presented to the Conference to which it was given in accordance with the above rule, it must be returned to the Conference by which it was given before the close of the next succeeding session. Otherwise the holder of the said transfer shall lose his right and privileges as a member of that Conference. The transfer, when made for a period not exceeding three years, and when the transfer of such a minister for a longer time than three years is requested by the Board of Missions and approved by the Annual Conference granting the transfer, shall be viewed as temporary; and if the minister returns to his own Conference before or at the time specified, he shall if his moral character stand fair, be again admitted to membership, and shall be entitled to all the privileges and claims he would have possessed had he not been thus transferred. All ministers holding transfers shall be responsible to the Conference giving such transfer, until the transfer shall receive the signature of the president of the Conference to which he designs to make his application.

¶12. Ministers coming from other denominations may be received and employed by the Annual Conference provided, they present suitable testimonials of good standing; and, provided, also the Conference shall be satisfied with the faith, Christian experience and qualifications of the applicant.

¶13. A minister may retire from the service of the Conference, and be received back again without

recommendation from the Quarterly Conference, if he makes the application within three years; provided his moral character stands fair. An Annual Conference may leave a minister without an appointment, at his own request, the ensuing year. When any minister is so left, he may be entitled to a seat in the Quarterly Conference where he resides, but shall be ultimately responsible to the Annual Conference. A superannuated minister may have a seat in the Quarterly Conference on the same conditions.

This rule shall apply to editors, publishing agents, presidents of colleges, professors, etc.; to those living beyond the bounds of their Annual Conferences as well as those living within the bounds thereof.

¶ 14. No minister or preacher who shall have been rejected by an Annual Conference, shall be employed by its president.

¶ 15. No itinerant preacher shall be eligible to ordination as an elder until he shall have preached three years under the appointment of an Annual Conference. Provided that any graduate coming from an accredited Theological Seminary of an evangelical denomination may be eligible to ordination without pursuing the Conference Course of Study or passing through a period of three years' probation. But where it is necessary to provide for the administration of the ordinances in pastoral charges that cannot be supplied with elders, an Annual Conference may license the pastors of such charges to administer the ordinances, which license, when authorized by a vote of the Annual Conference and signed by the president and the secretary, shall convey the same authority in this respect as ordination, except that it must be renewed annually. Provided, that if the candidate for ordination does not pass the studies of his year in the course of study, his license shall not be granted, neither shall he be assigned to a pastoral charge the following year, unless he promises that he will faithfully pursue the studies of his Conference

course. Unstationed preachers who have preached three years under a license, one year of which shall have been as a licentiate in this church, may, by a vote of an Annual Conference, be licensed to administer the ordinances; and after they have administered the ordinances for three years under a license they may be elected to orders.

¶ 16. No person shall be elected to orders or be licensed to administer the ordinances except such as are of unexceptional moral character, genuine piety, respectable attainments and sound in the belief of the fundamental doctrines of Christianity and faithful in the discharge of Gospel duties.

¶ 17. No person shall be elected to orders or be licensed to administer the ordinances without first passing an examination by the committee on orders appointed by the Annual Conference.

¶ 18. Only elders and those who have been licensed to administer the ordinances shall have authority to administer the Lord's Supper, to baptize, and to celebrate matrimony; but they shall not celebrate the marriage of divorced persons who have violated their marriage vows.

¶ 19. Ordination shall be performed by the president, assisted by two or more elders.

¶ 20. When circumstances make it necessary, the Annual Conference may supply the place of the president in ordinations by substituting any other elder in his stead.

¶ 21. Every minister who appeals to the Annual Conference from a decision of a Committee of Trial, shall be permitted to appear before the Conference, and state the reasons of his appeal. When the Conference shall have decided that his appeal is valid, then all the documents belonging to the trial had before the committee shall be read, after which his accuser shall be permitted to support his charges in the presence of the appellant. The appellant may in turn make his reply, which shall close the

proceedings on both sides, unless the Conference grant the accuser permission to speak the second time. The appellant and accuser shall then retire, and the Conference shall decide, and furnish the appellant with a copy of the decision. In all trials on appeals, the court shall not go beyond the record of the court below, but shall decide in view of the pleadings and evidence therein contained; unless the accused shall have given notice at the time he signified his intention to appeal, that he would request the upper court to open the whole merits of the case, when new testimony may be introduced, and the court shall give its own and final decision in the case. When the appeal is tried upon the record of the court below, the decision shall acquit the accused, or confirm the judgment rendered below, or order a new trial. These rules shall apply to appeals to Quarterly Conferences.

¶ 22. No station or circuit shall be divided, unless each part has ability to support one or more preachers, except the delegate or delegates from the station or circuit assent to the division.

¶ 23. In stationing the ministers and preachers, the Annual Conference shall not give an appointment to any man who, in the opinion of a majority of the members, is incompetent to perform the duties thereof, or who, they may believe, will neglect the appointment; and such minister or preacher may be transferred by the Conference to the unstationed list. Nevertheless, no minister who, in the judgment of the Conference, is entitled to a superannuated relation, shall be so transferred. An Annual Conference may loan ministers to the General Boards, Colleges and other institutions and work of the denomination at large from year to year; and such ministers shall be regarded as sustaining an active relation to the Conference.

Ministers may be loaned by one Annual Conference to another Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church for a period of two years. If he desires to serve longer in the Conference

to which he has been loaned, he shall take a transfer to that Conference. Ministers may be loaned to the Anti-Saloon League, the National Reform Association and kindred organizations engaged in moral welfare work, annually, without time limitation in the discretion of the conference of which the minister is a member. Special loan relations not herein provided for shall be left with each Annual Conference.

¶ 24. When a church of another denomination signifies a desire to receive a ministerial supply from an Annual Conference, said Conference may accede to the wishes of the church making application, by appointment from year to year, as it may see fit; provided, that the church thus supplied shall cooperate with the Conference in its various measures of benevolence and religion.

¶ 25. No minister, in good health, shall be left without regular ministerial work for more than two years in succession. At the end of that time he shall resume his itinerant labors, or be transferred to the unstationed list; and when so transferred he shall receive a certificate of his standing. This rule shall apply to all ministers so transferred.

¶ 26. No minister, or preacher, appointed to a station, circuit or mission, shall cease from the labor assigned him by the stationing authority, until his term of service expires, except by consent of the president and of the charge.

¶ 27. Each Annual Conference shall cause the following statistics to be reported from the various charges each year, viz.: Number of ministers and preachers stationed and unstationed; number of members; number of probationers; number received during the year; number deceased; number withdrawn; number removed; number discontinued; number of increase or decrease (as the case may be) in the membership during the year; number and value of church edifices and parsonages; number of church periodicals taken; number of Sabbath

schools, teachers and scholars; number of conversions; number of volumes in Sabbath school library; amounts paid for benevolent purposes; the names of unstationed ministers and preachers should also be registered and published in the minutes of the Conference within whose bounds they hold their membership. The full minutes may be published in pamphlet form, and a synopsis shall be furnished the official papers. The Secretary of each Annual Conference shall forward each year a certified copy of the Journal to the Secretary of the General Conference, who shall preserve and forward the same to the General Conference. The Secretary of each Annual Conference shall also, as soon as practicable after the close of the Conference, furnish the Secretary of the General Conference a full summary of the reports of his Conference.

¶ 28. No member of conference shall withdraw himself from its sittings without permission.

¶ 29. It shall be the duty of every minister belonging to an Annual Conference to attend its annual sessions, or, if unable to attend, to inform the Conference by letter of said inability, and the causes thereof, and to forward the statistical report of his field to the Conference. Any minister who shall neglect the above duties shall be subject to the censure of the Conference; and if he shall persist in such neglect for two years in succession, he shall be liable to lose his membership in said Conference by a vote thereof.

¶ 30. In all cases where an Annual Conference shall omit or decline to prescribe the mode of election for delegates to the Annual Conference the following shall be the rule; in stations the election for delegates to the Annual Conference shall be by the qualified members, under the direction of the stewards, who shall designate the time and place and serve as judges of the election. The election shall be by ballot, and be held at least ten days before the sitting of the Annual Conference. Notice shall be given on the preceding Sabbath from the

pulpit or pulpits, of the time and place of holding the election. The person receiving a majority of all the votes cast shall be declared elected.

It shall be the duty of the stewards, in every circuit, to hold an election in their respective churches, previous to the last Quarterly Conference in each year, for delegate or delegates to the Annual Conference and report the results to the last Quarterly Conference, under the certificate of the stewards. The person or persons receiving a majority of the whole number of votes cast shall be declared elected. But if no person or persons receive a majority, the Quarterly Conference shall elect, by ballot, a delegate or delegates; the person or persons receiving a majority of all the votes cast shall be declared elected. And in case the Quarterly Conference fail to meet and decide, then it shall be the duty of the stewards of the circuit to determine and declare who is elected.

¶ 31. An Annual Conference failing to comply with the requirements of the Constitution, viz.: "Each Annual Conference shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and send ■ copy for the quadrennium, properly authenticated, either written or printed to the General Conference." (Art. viii, Sec. 3), without sufficient reason shall lose its representation in said General Conference, by a vote thereof.

¶ 32. When a president and standing district committee, or a majority of them, shall become satisfied of the necessity for changing the time or place of holding a succeeding Annual Conference, they shall do so by giving public notice in the district at least two months previous to the time of holding such Conference.

¶ 33. Each Annual Conference shall collect an amount sufficient to pay all the expenses of its representatives while attending the sessions of the General Conference, and forward the same to the Treasurer of the Annual Conference by whom it shall be disbursed.

¶34. Each Annual Conference shall annually elect a standing district committee of three elders and three laymen whose duty it shall be, in the event of the death, resignation or suspension of the president, to appoint a president pro-tem., to serve until the sitting of the next Annual Conference. Each Annual Conference shall also elect a Conference Treasurer, who shall be properly bonded and to whom all money belonging to the Conference shall be paid; he shall remit to the General Church Treasurer on the 15th day of each month all monies belonging to the General Conference.

¶35. Should charges be preferred against the president of an Annual Conference, the committee shall call upon one of the elders of the Conference to make the official notifications and to preside at the trial in accordance with the rule provided for the trial of ministers.

¶36. The Annual Conference shall not receive a person into its itinerancy until he has passed a satisfactory examination in English Grammar, United States History, Practical Arithmetic, Geography, Smith's Scripture History, Binney's Compend, and the Constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Protestant Church or their equivalent: Provided, that any graduate coming from an accredited Theological Seminary of an evangelical denomination may be eligible to ordination without pursuing the Conference Course of Study or passing through a period of three years' probation.

It shall be the duty of our annual conferences to acquaint our young men seeking entrance to our itinerancy with the following educational standard for ministerial qualification in the Methodist Protestant Church: All candidates desiring to enter the ministry in the Methodist Protestant Church shall be encouraged to complete a course in a college or Theological seminary of the Methodist Protestant Church, and where possible both college and theological course.

The following course of study shall be mandatory upon all Conferences not having a more advanced course:

First year. Van Pelt, Introduction to the Study of the Bible; Tillett, Personal Salvation; Byington, The Minister's Weekday Challenge; Vieth, Objectives in Religious Education; Davis, Principles of Preaching; The Methodist Protestant Discipline; Presentation of three fully written Original Sermons.

Second year. Old Testament History (Foakes-Jackson, Wade, or Blaikie); Curtis, The Christian Faith (first half); Garvie, The Christian Preacher; Betts, The Curriculum of Religious Education; Qualben, History of the Christian Church (first half); McAfee, The Christian Message and Program; Warburton, The Making of Modern Missions; The Methodist Protestant Discipline; Presentation of three fully written Original Sermons.

Third year. Rally, New Testament History; Curtis, The Christian Faith (second half); Myers, Teaching Religion; Qualben, History of the Christian Church (second half); Hannan, Evangelism; Leach, Church Administration; David Smith, The Life of Christ; The Methodist Protestant Discipline; Presentation of three fully written Original Sermons.

¶ 37. No district shall be set off unless it contains fifteen hundred members; except in the case of frontier districts, which, however, shall contain at least five hundred members. Provided, however, it shall be competent for the General Conference to constitute Mission Annual Conference Districts, with a smaller number than five hundred members. Said Mission Districts shall be entitled to representation in the General Conference of one Ministerial and one Lay Messenger from each district who shall have the right of discussion but not the right to vote.

¶ 38. The organization of Annual Conferences during the interim of the General Conference shall be under the supervision of a commission composed of three presidents of contiguous Annual Conferences, appointed by the president of the General Conference. Said Commission shall see that the requirements of the Constitution and Discipline are complied with, and report in writing to the secretary of the General Conference the facts of such organization, and the secretary shall certify the same to the General Conference at its next succeeding session. Provided, that no such commission shall be appointed looking to the division of the territory of any Annual Conference, except upon the request of the said Conference by a two-thirds vote thereof.

¶ 39. Whenever, in the interval of Conference, a call shall be made upon the president of an Annual Conference for a minister or preacher to render service in any place not already included in some other station, circuit or mission within his district, or upon ground without the territorial limit of any district or in case the president shall be fully satisfied, from his own personal knowledge or otherwise, of the need of such services, without any special call upon him for aid, he shall have authority in all such cases to appoint a missionary.

¶ 40. Each Annual Conference shall have authority to employ and appoint its ministers or preachers to serve as home missionaries in any unoccupied portions of its district for the purposes of preaching the Gospel therein, and organizing churches with a view to the formation of new stations and circuits under the Constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Protestant Church. Whenever from pecuniary inability to support a pastor, or any other cause which the Annual Conference may deem sufficient, the conversion of a station or circuit into a mission is desired, the Annual Conference may make such change.

The Annual Conference shall have authority to prescribe the duties of its Home missionaries to provide for their support, and in case of deficiencies to allow them a proportionate part of the funds of the Annual Conference raised for missionary purposes.

¶ 41. The Annual Conference shall have authority to change or continue the appointment of said missionaries at its annual sessions, and to require the missionaries to make regular reports at said sessions of the success and progress of their labors and any other objects connected with their missions; and to prescribe such rules and regulations for the government of said societies, in conformity with the Constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Protestant Church, as the Conference shall deem best, until the Conference shall, in its judgment of their circumstances, decide to set them off and organize them into regular stations or circuits.

¶ 42. The Annual Conference shall assemble on Friday, at 2 P. M., and proceed to elect by ballot the number of ministerial and lay representatives to the General Conference to which the district may be entitled. Also, if necessary, an equal number of ministerial and lay alternates to serve in the event of disability on the part of the original representatives, who shall have precedence according to the vote received.

¶ 43. The President and Secretary of the Annual Conference shall forward to the secretary of the General Conference a certified list of representatives and alternates so elected.

¶ 44. Should the seat of any representatives to the General Conference be contested, the contestant shall give notice thereof to the person or persons returned by the Annual Conference within twenty-days after the Conference shall have adjourned, stating the ground of contest.

Section Six. The General Conference

(See Constitution, Articles VIII, IX and X.)

¶ 1. The General Conference shall meet at 10 o'clock A. M. on the day designated in the Constitution, and the president shall open the session with suitable religious exercises; or in his absence, the president pro tempore chosen by the Conference.

¶ 2. A committee on credentials shall be appointed at the first sitting of the conference, to which shall be referred all certificates or other evidence of election. This committee shall also hear all contested cases, and its report shall be subject to the decision of the Conference.

¶ 3. Should representatives from an Annual Conference, whose election has not been certified as required by paragraph 6, present themselves with other evidence of election by said Conference, their right to a seat in the General Conference, with the evidence presented, shall be referred to a special committee appointed for the purpose, who shall report to the General Conference whether or not the said representatives are entitled to seats.

¶ 4. The General Conference shall elect by ballot at each quadrennial session from among its members, a president, a secretary and an assistant secretary. They shall also elect by ballot a General Conference treasurer; all of whom shall hold office until their successors are elected. Nominating and seconding speeches shall be limited to three minutes.

¶ 5. (a) The President of the General Conference, by virtue of his office, shall be a member of each one of the Annual Conferences, and when present at the Annual Conference sessions he shall have the privilege of participating in any and all the discussions, but not the right to vote, except in his own Conference.

(b) He shall be recognized as the connectional officer of the denomination; and he shall be ex-

officio the Chairman of the Executive Committee, and a member of all the Boards elected by the General Conference. He shall preside, when present, at all joint meetings of the various Boards, and be president of whatever committee or council may be chosen to direct the forward movements of the denomination during the quadrennium. He shall travel throughout the church, visiting Annual Conferences, advising with Annual Conference Presidents as to the work in their several districts, and giving special attention and care to the smaller Conferences.

(c) He shall call together for consultation the Secretaries of the various Boards, and together they shall formulate plans with a view of raising the budget in full, and the President of the General Conference shall direct in the execution of the same. He shall also have the power to call together pastors and laymen of any section of the church when he feels that their coming together will be wise.

(d) He shall keep in view during the quadrennium the entire program adopted by the General Conference and see to it that the agencies entrusted with any part of the program perform their duties. He shall also have the power to call to his assistance any person or persons, as his judgment may direct, to assist in conducting a campaign, or campaigns, to teach our people the fundamental principles of Christian Stewardship.

(e) In the event of a vacancy occurring in this office the Executive Committee shall elect a person to fill the office until the meeting of the General Conference.

¶ 6. The Secretary of the General Conference shall be the custodian of all records belonging to that body. As soon as practicable before the date of the meeting of the General Conference he shall make out a roll of members of the General Conference from the certified lists forwarded to him by the presidents and secretaries of the An-

nual Conferences, and upon the basis of that roll as prima facie evidence of membership the General Conference shall organize. In the event of a vacancy occurring in this office the Executive Committee shall designate a person to act until the meeting of the General Conference. The secretary shall turn over to his successor all records in his hands and make a report of all his transactions to the General Conference. In the event of his absence from the first meeting of the General Conference a secretary pro tempore shall be chosen.

¶ 7. The Assistant Secretary shall prepare a report blank for use by Annual Conferences in gathering statistical information, and a tally-sheet corresponding to the report blanks; the Executive Committee first approving the form. These blanks and tally sheets shall be published by the Board of Publication, and supplied to the Annual Conferences without charge. All Annual Conferences shall be required to use these blanks but not to the exclusion of any other blank they may care to use for their own records. A copy of the tally-sheet shall be forwarded promptly to the Assistant Secretary, who shall as early as possible in January of each year compile and publish in the church papers the information thus obtained, together with such other statistical information as shall reflect the progress of the church. Each Annual Conference shall arrange to comply with this order by designating a proper officer to act in co-operation with the Assistant Secretary in obtaining complete and reliable reports. It shall be the duty of the Assistant Secretary to assemble for report to the General Conference complete statistical information in form ready for the printer, arranged by years and by annual conferences, and giving summaries upon membership, property, finance and benevolences, corresponding to the items called for on the official blank. He shall also as a part of his report assemble such other figures as may not be included in the annual conference reports, in

order that the full financial resources of the Church may be known.

The fiscal year as applied to statistics shall be from January 1st to December 31st. The report to the General Conference shall cover the four year period ending December 31st preceding each quadrennial session.

¶ 8. The treasurer of the General Conference shall be the custodian of all funds belonging to the Boards of Christian Education and of Missions. He shall also receive and disburse the funds appropriated to the use of the General Conference for administrative purposes. He shall give bond as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee, publish a full report in the church papers every year in May, and make a full report to the General Conference. He shall act under the direction of the Executive Committee, and in the event of a vacancy occurring in the office the Executive Committee shall elect one to act until the meeting of the General Conference.

¶ 9. The several Boards shall present to the General Conference, a complete financial statement, showing all monies received and disbursed during the quadrennium just closed, with an itemized estimate of their needs for the ensuing four years. The General Conference, after considering the estimates, the available resources of the church, and the relative importance of the work of these boards, shall determine the amount to be assessed for these respective purposes, and shall apportion the amount required to the several annual conferences of the Church.

Any Annual Conference which fails to make this assessment as directed by the General Conference, or to make an earnest effort to collect the amount so apportioned in full each year, shall forfeit its representation in the ensuing General Conference. The published minutes of the Annual Conference, showing assessments and receipts, shall be full and sufficient evidence in case action becomes necessary under this provision.

¶ 10. The General Conference shall elect at each quadrennial session an Executive Committee composed of four ministers and four laymen, one of whom shall be the President of the General Conference and Chairman ex-officio. No two of the elected members shall be from the membership of the same Annual Conference, but they may or may not be members of the General Conference then in session. Vacancies occurring in the membership of this Committee during the interim of the General Conference shall be filled by the Committee, and in the absence of the Chairman it shall designate one of its members to act as Chairman. The Secretary of the General Conference shall be an honorary member.

¶ 11. The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the President of the General Conference or at the written request of one-half of the Committee. The expenses of the meetings of the Executive Committee shall be paid out of the funds of the General Conference or by the Board of Publication in case of a deficit.

¶ 12. The Executive Committee shall have authority to select a place for the meeting of the General Conference if no place has been designated by the preceding General Conference; and to appoint representatives to all denominational and inter-denominational meetings of a representative character and transmit greetings thereto, as may be proper and in keeping with our character and progress; provided that this shall not be construed as giving the Executive Committee power to enter into any relations by representatives or delegates which have not been specifically sanctioned by the General Conference.

¶ 13. The Executive Committee shall have oversight during the interim of the General Conference of all the general interests of the Church represented by Boards elected by the General Conference. It shall see that the will of the General Conference

is carried out in every particular in accordance with its expression in its quadrennial sessions, and require an annual report from each of the Boards and Institutions of the Church showing the transactions and conditions of each. It shall advise and counsel the several boards and institutions as it may deem necessary. Any Board or Institution of the Church failing to make such annual report, or failing or refusing to recognize and consider the advice and counsel of the Executive Committee, shall be subject to investigation at the instance of the committee and for the purpose of such investigation all official books, papers, letters and documents belonging to such institution shall be made accessible to the Committee. The words "boards and institutions" shall be construed to include all officers and agents in charge of the work or property of the Church subject to the control of the General Conference and reporting thereto.

¶ 14. The Executive Committee shall be vested with power to hear appeals from Quarterly or Annual Conferences for the purpose of interpreting and determining any question of law involved in its application to the matter at issue, when the case is properly transmitted by the president or secretary of the Annual Conference; and the Committee may designate a time and place for hearing such appeals when argument or brief may be submitted by parties concerned, who shall be notified of the time and place of such hearing.

The Committee shall certify its opinion in proper form duly authenticated to the president of the Annual Conference and preserve a record of same.

¶ 15. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to interpret and construe the Constitution, By-laws and Statutes of the Church in their relation and application to any question of interest and importance to any section or body of the Church, when the same is transmitted as in case of appeals.

¶ 16. The Executive Committee shall at each Annual Meeting prepare a schedule for the visitation

of Annual Conferences by the editors, agents and secretaries of the church, so that at least one, and not more than two representatives shall be present during the entire session of each Annual Conference. The purpose of this visitation shall be to give information, suggest improved methods and inspire interest in all the general work of the Church; and each person so sent shall prepare himself to speak fully and impartially on all these interests. The expenses of these representatives shall be borne pro rata by all the interests. This arrangement shall not require the Executive Committee to send the agents of the Board of Publication to all the Conferences except by agreement with the Board of Publication.

¶ 17. The Executive Committee shall make a written report of all its work and actions to the General Conference. It shall also present in connection with this report a survey of the condition of the denomination, of its progress during the quadrennium, and of its outlook. This report shall be presented after the opening exercises and the preliminary organization.

¶ 18. The General Conference shall elect at each quadrennial session the following:

(a) Four ministers and four laymen, no two of whom shall be members of the same annual conference, one of whom shall be the President of the General Conference, to constitute the Executive Committee of the Methodist Protestant Church.

(b) Two Executive Secretaries of the Board of Missions, a man and a woman; and two Executive Secretaries of the the Board of Christian Education.

(c) Five men and five women, four of whom shall be ministers, to constitute the Board of Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church.

(d) Five ministers and five laymen, one of whom shall be the President of the General Conference,

to constitute the Board of Christian Education of the Methodist Protestant Church.

(e) The Editor of the Methodist Protestant-Recorder, the Editor of the Sunday School periodicals, and the publishing Agents.

(f) Five laymen and five ministers, one of whom shall be the President of the General Conference, to constitute the Board of Publication of the Methodist Protestant Church.

(g) No person shall be elected a member of more than one of these Boards, and no person shall be elected a member of any Board of which he is an employe or a beneficiary; and if a member shall become an employe or a beneficiary after his election, his membership in the Board shall become vacant.

¶ 19. The Benevolent and financial program of the General Conference shall include the following items:

a. The fiscal year of the General Conference shall begin on May 1st and end on April 30th.

b. All reports shall carry in parallel columns by years a complete statement of receipts, disbursements, and balances or overdrafts.

c. June 1st shall be the time when the salaries of the officers of the General Conference shall begin, and end; and, in the case of change in the official personel, the time when the respective offices shall be transferred and the terms of offices, with necessary audits, shall begin, and end.

d. The general benevolent program shall be designated "World Service".

e. The budget system shall be used in apportioning, collecting, and distributing World Service funds; provided, first, the Boards through the Secretaries and other properly accredited representatives be permitted and encouraged to solicit personal contributions to be added to the funds of

the respective Boards without becoming a charge against their percentage in the distribution of the budget; and, provided, second, that the Secretaries and other workers, whenever possible, shall visit churches and endeavor to stimulate them to pay in full their budget apportionment.

f. All funds collected in the churches for World Service shall be sent monthly to the Treasurer of the Annual Conference to which these churches belong. The Treasurers of the Annual Conferences shall remit to the Treasurer of the General Conference, not later than the 15th day of the month, all funds in hand for World Service at the end of the preceding month.

g. The distribution of money to the participating Boards and Interests shall be upon the basis of the actual amount of money received.

h. Both the Board of Missions and the Board of Christian Education shall promote the work of their respective departments throughout the year; but special emphasis shall be placed upon the work of the Board of Christian Education during that period from August 1st to the first Sunday in February inclusive, and upon the work of the Board of Missions from the latter date to July 31st. The following special days shall be observed: Rally Day, Women's Thank Offering Day in November, and Young People's Day, for Christian Education; and Women's Thank Offering Day in February, Easter, and Children's Day, for Missions. All funds received from special offerings on these special days shall be credited to the interest for which the particular special day is designated, and shall be a credit for the charge on the World Service budget; provided, that no Board shall receive more or less than its designated percentage of the actual World Service receipts.

i. The programs for Rally Day and Young People's Day shall be prepared by the Board of Chris-

tian Education, and the programs for Easter Day and Children's Day shall be prepared by the Board of Missions. The expense of the programs of these special days shall be a charge against the undesignated funds and the amount of the expense shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

CHAPTER TWO. OFFICIAL DUTIES

Section One. Of Officers of the General Conference

(Note: These will be found described under Chapter One, Section Six, Paragraphs 5-18.)

Section Two. Of Administrative Boards and their Officers

¶ 1. It shall be the duty of the respective Boards to see that the several editors, agents and secretaries perform their official duties creditably. Each Board shall have power to remove any editor, agent or secretary under its supervision for incompetency or neglect of duty, and fill all vacancies created during the interim of the General Conference.

¶ 2. The editors, publishing agents, college agents and the secretaries of the Boards of Missions and of Christian Education are hereby declared to be ex-officio honorary members of the Annual Conferences which they may officially visit, so far as the general interests which they represent are concerned.

¶ 3. In case of a vacancy in the editorship of the Methodist Protestant-Recorder, the editorship of the Sunday School publications, of the position of publishing agent, the Board of Publication shall have power to fill such vacancy.

¶ 4. All officers of the Church shall be liable to removal from office for maladministration, and for neglect of official duties.

¶ 5. The salaries of all editors, agents, secretaries and others in the general work of the Church shall be fixed by the Boards under whose direction they are employed.

Section Three. Of Annual Conference Presidents (See Constitution, Article XI.)

¶ 1. The President of the annual conference is the executive head of the conference. He shall

visit officially the several charges as the conference may direct, and when present on a charge, he shall have preference of the pulpit, and all records shall be open to him for examination. If he desires to do so, he may call a meeting of the quarterly conference for the time of his visit, stating the reason for the call.

¶ 2. The President shall see that every pastor in the district duly enters upon and continues in the discharge of all his official duties. This executive duty shall be his chief duty, to which all other matters shall be subsidiary. No conference shall require of the President any service that will interfere with this duty. He shall have the privilege, if it is necessary, to preach less, hold fewer revival meetings, travel over the district less, and shall be excused from these duties to whatever extent may be necessary.

Where it is necessary, this executive duty shall include a regular inspection of Church registers, inquiring into the methods used by the pastor in carrying on the work of the charge, conferring with the quarterly conferences and examining their records, examining what is being done in response to matters referred to the charge by the annual conference, consulting with the stewards as to payment of pastor's salary and other expenses, hearing the advisory committee as to the pastor's faithfulness and efficiency, and in every other respect doing the full work of ■ supervising executive. Where a charge is without a pastor, the President shall have power to perform any of the duties of the pastor.

¶ 3. The President of an Annual Conference shall not employ any minister or preacher, belonging to another Annual Conference, without a certificate of good standing from the president of the Conference to which such minister or preacher belongs, and bearing date not more than ninety days previous to his employment.

No member of an Annual Conference shall enter the territory of any other Annual Conference to work or to preach within the bounds of that Conference without the consent of the president of that Conference. But this is not to be understood as interfering with pastors securing help in special services.

¶ 4. When a president makes an exchange of a minister or preacher from one station, circuit or mission to another, it shall be his duty to give him a written certificate of said change, which shall be his passport to the new appointment. He shall also give a certificate of employment to ministers, preachers and missionaries, whom he may employ in the recess of the Conference, without which no minister, preacher or missionary shall be recognized as regularly appointed. He shall provide for the regular administration of the ordinances of the Church in such charges as are supplied by unordained men. To enable him to carry out this provision he may call to his assistance any pastor within the bounds of the Conference over which he presides; provided, however, that he shall not call any pastor from his field of labor more than once during a Conference year.

¶ 5. It shall be the duty of the president of each Annual Conference in the absence of a regular agent, at each of its annual sessions, to call the attention of the Conference to the claims of the missionary, educational, periodical and such other general interests of the Church as may properly come before it for such action as may be deemed necessary.

¶ 6. No Annual Conference President shall give a letter of standing to any minister or preacher in his conference until he knows positively that such minister or preacher is not indebted to the Board of Christian Education.

Section Four. Of Pastors and other Ministers

(See Constitution, Article XI.)

¶ 1. It shall be the duty of every pastor to preach the Word, administer the ordinances, execute the Discipline, and faithfully discharge all the duties belonging to the ministerial and pastoral office; to read and explain such portions of the Constitution and Discipline as he may deem necessary to give our people suitable information in regard to our ecclesiastical economy.

¶ 2. To receive persons on probation, and assign them to classes, when they do not select for themselves.

¶ 3. To visit all the classes, at least once a quarter, if practicable, and see that they are duly and properly met by their respective leaders; and that the members regularly attend their classes. And to hold an election, within the last quarter in each Conference year, of a class leader in each class of his station, circuit or mission; but should any class refuse or neglect to elect a leader in accordance with the Constitution, the pastor shall then appoint a leader for said class.

¶ 4. To give due notice from all the pulpits in his station, circuit or mission of the time and place of holding the ensuing Quarterly Conference.

¶ 5. To hold love-feasts, general class meetings, and prayer meetings; to visit the sick, the poor, the aged and infirm members, as well as those in health and better circumstances.

¶ 6. To recognize the children of members of our Church as under pastoral care and instruction with a view to their admission into full membership; and they shall be received into full membership, on application, if the Church is satisfied with their spiritual experience.

¶ 7. To organize the children of members in classes of moderate size, provided the parents or

guardians of the children concur in the measure, and appoint suitable teachers, male or female, whose duty it shall be to instruct them in the principles and precepts of the Christian religion; to organize, as far as practicable, Sabbath-schools at each appointment within his charge.

¶ 8. To keep an exact record of all the members belonging to his station, circuit or mission, and of the baptisms and marriages. To keep during the tenure of his pastorate the Church Register in official form, which shall be a permanent and historical record of the relationship of all members who may have been at any time in the communion of the church. To submit a written report quarterly to his Quarterly Conference, setting forth the spiritual condition of his charge, together with all changes that have been made during the quarter.

¶ 9. To report quarterly to the president by letter, and only items of general interest to the official organs. At the close of his term he shall leave his successor a plan of his charge.

¶ 10. To give certificates to those who desire to remove to another station, circuit or mission, and when such certificates are issued, he shall at once, if able to do so, notify the pastor of the charge to which the removal is intended to be, or has been made.

No pastor shall withhold a certificate from a person whose moral character stands fair. Such certificates shall not be valid for a longer period than six months, and shall be so marked on the certificate. Persons holding such certificates shall be amenable to the Church from which the certificate comes until it has been deposited elsewhere.

¶ 11. The pastor is a member of all Sabbath-school societies and teachers' meetings, belonging to his pastoral charge, and when present shall be the chairman of the meeting. Teachers meetings shall be held weekly, or at least monthly.

¶ 12. It shall be the duty of each pastor to present to the people of his charge annually the claims of the respective general interest of the church, as required by the Discipline, to observe and emphasize the special days, to receive such contributions as the people are willing to give for these general interests, and to forward them promptly through the proper channel to the Treasurer of the Annual Conference.

¶ 13. It shall be the duty of the associate pastor to preach statedly, in all the appointments, and to aid the pastor in the general work of the Gospel in the charge to which he has been appointed.

¶ 14. The Annual Conference may, by vote, grant a supernumerary relation to a minister in view of his inability to devote himself entirely to the work of the ministry, but who is able and willing to render a certain amount of ministerial labor in the vicinity where he may reside.

He shall, on being granted this relation, report himself to the nearest Quarterly Conference wherein he is entitled to a seat, but he shall be ultimately responsible to the Annual Conference. He shall preach statedly at all the appointments officially assigned to him, and aid the pastor in his official duties, so far as his other engagements will permit. He shall attend the sessions of the Annual Conference; or, if unable to attend, he shall inform the Conference, by letter, of said inability, and the causes thereof.

¶ 15. It shall be the duty of every unstationed minister or preacher, that is a minister or preacher not a member of an annual conference, to preach at all the appointments officially assigned to him; and to render all the pastoral assistance in his station, circuit or mission he can, consistently with his other duties. Provided, always, that at the time of making out a plan, every unstationed min-

ister and preacher shall have the privilege of stating explicitly the amount of service he can consistently perform.

When a member of an Annual Conference is transferred to the unstationed list, it shall be his duty to seek membership in some local church, and he shall then be accorded a seat in the quarterly conference of said charge.

Section Five. Of Local Church Officers

Class Leaders

¶ 1. It shall be the duty of each class leader to meet his class once a week, to instruct the members in the principles and duties of Christianity; to comfort them in affliction, to advise them in cases of difficulty and to exhort them to diligence and perseverance in doing and suffering the will of God; and it shall be the duty of each member of the class to meet him at the stated time and place appointed for holding the class meeting.

¶ 2. Each leader shall have the names of all the members of his class entered in a book or paper kept by him for the purpose, in which he shall note, weekly, the presence or absence of each member.

¶ 3. It shall also be the duty of each leader to attend the monthly meetings, to represent the state of his class, and inform the pastor of any that are sick or need a pastoral visit.

¶ 4. It shall be the duty of each leader to visit the sick and those members who frequently absent themselves from the means of grace; and to promote the spiritual, temporal and eternal interests of those committed to his care.

¶ 5. It shall be the duty of each leader to report to the pastor all cases of neglect of duty or improper conduct on the part of the members of his class, which, in his opinion, require the exercise of discipline.

Trustees

¶ 6. Trustees shall be elected annually by the qualified members of the Church, except where charters otherwise provide.

It shall be the duty of the trustees to hold the property in trust for the use and benefit of the Church, and to fill any vacancies occasioned in their Board by death, resignation, or ceasing to be a member of the Methodist Protestant Church. And all trustees shall remain in office until their successors shall have been elected.

¶ 7. Trustees shall hold periodical meetings and keep a fair and regular record of all the transactions of the Board, which shall at all times be open for the inspection of the members of the Church. The record shall be examined and the accounts audited annually by a special committee appointed for the purpose by the Church.

¶ 8. Trustees shall take care of the Church property of all kinds, and the necessary funds to defray the expense incurred in repair and improvement shall be collected by the Board of Trustees after having such expense and collection announced from the pulpit.

¶ 9. The trustees shall have power, when authorized by a majority of all the qualified members of the Church, to purchase, build, repair, lease, sell, rent, mortgage, or otherwise procure or dispose of property; and on no other condition or conditions whatever. Said authorization shall be given at a meeting called for the purpose by public notice four weeks in advance or any adjournment from time to time thereof. Provided, the trustees shall not deny the use of the Church to any Christian work recognized by the General Conference; and provided further, that nothing in this article shall be construed to give power to the trustees to divert the property or the proceeds thereof from the Methodist Protestant denomination.

¶ 10. In case any Church shall become extinct by the death of its members, by removals or otherwise, the Church property, if any, shall vest in the Quarterly Conference of the charge, or the Annual Conference, where there is no Quarterly Conference, to be used in the erection of houses of worship for the denomination, after paying any debts that may exist against said Church.

¶ 11. A Church shall be regarded as extinct when the membership shall become so reduced that it has not sufficient members to fill its offices, and has ceased to hold its regular meetings, and to keep its relation with any charge having regular connection with an Annual Conference. Provided, however, that no Church shall be considered officially extinct until so declared by the Annual Conference.

Stewards

(The duty of stewards to hold elections for delegates to the Annual Conference will be found under Chapter One, Section Five, ¶30).

¶ 12. As soon as practicable after the close of the Annual Conference there shall be a meeting of the official members of the charge to ascertain the current expenses of the year, and apportion the same to the several churches, except in cases where a special financial plan has done this work previous to the meeting of the Conference.

¶ 13. It shall then be the duty of the stewards and class leaders of each church to apportion the same among the members according to their ability or willingness to pay, as per our Church government; or, if preferred, the amount each member is to pay may be determined by subscription. After the apportionment is thus made a report of the same shall be submitted to the church for its adoption.

¶ 14. It shall be the duty of the stewards of each church to procure a suitable book, prepared for the purpose, and keep a financial register, in which the names of all members shall be enrolled. This

book shall be ruled with columns to show opposite each name the amounts apportioned or subscribed, and to give credits to each one as payments are made either weekly or monthly. It is recommended that payments be made weekly in stations, and monthly on circuits.

¶ 15. Wherever it is practicable, what is called the envelope plan should be used in collecting church and benevolent funds, and such committees and collectors as may be deemed necessary should be appointed to assist and co-operate in making the collections.

¶ 16. The stewards or treasurer of each church shall furnish to each member each month in stations, and at the end of each quarter on circuits, a statement showing the conditions of his or her apportionment or subscription. It shall also be the duty of the stewards to call on each delinquent and collect the amount due.

¶ 17. The stewards shall make the necessary provision and preparation for the Lord's Supper and Love-feast and shall make a quarterly report to the church of their collections and disbursements, and state of the church funds.

¶ 18. The stewards shall provide a Discipline to be given to each full member at the time of his reception into the Church.

Deaconesses

¶ 19. The duty of the deaconess is to minister to the poor, visit the sick, pray with the dying, care for the orphan, seek the wandering, save the sinning, and in general, to devote herself to such forms of Christian labor as may be suited to her abilities. No vow of perpetual service shall be exacted from any deaconess.

¶ 20. In every Annual Conference within which deaconesses may be employed, a Conference Deaconess Board, consisting of not less than nine nor more than fifteen members, one-third of the number to be ministers, one-third to be laymen, and

one-third to be women, shall be chosen by the Conference to exercise a general control of the interests of this form of work. The term of the members of the Board shall be for three years, one-third of the number being chosen annually.

¶ 21. The Conference Board may, when any woman of suitable age, health and piety, and in possession of the training deemed necessary applies, direct that she be set apart to the office of a deaconess. Provided, however, that such distinction shall not be conferred except on the recommendation of a Quarterly Conference, and she shall have served a probation of two years of continuous service.

¶ 22. The Conference Board shall annually report both the names and the work of such deaconesses to the Annual Conference, and its approval shall be necessary for the continuance of any deaconess in the work in the district.

¶ 23. When working singly, each deaconess shall be under the direction of the pastor of the Church which she is serving. When associated together in a home, all the members of the same shall be subordinate to and directed by the superintendent placed in charge.

¶ 24. A proper costume shall be selected by the Conference Board for deaconesses to distinguish and protect them; this should, if possible, be uniform throughout the Church.

CHAPTER THREE. JUDICIAL REGULATIONS

Section One. Trial of Unstationed Ministers, Preachers, and Members

(Note. The term "unstationed" applies to those ministers and preachers who are not members of an Annual Conference, but amenable to the Quarterly Conference where they belong. A minister is one who has been ordained; a preacher, one who has not been ordained.)

¶ 1. In all cases of personal offence between

brethren, the direction of our Lord in Matt. xviii, 15-17, shall be pursued:

"Moreover, if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone; if he shall hear thee, thou has gained thy brother.

"But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

"And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church; but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as a heathen man and a publican."

In default of pursuing the above course here recommended, no charge shall lie against a minister or member.

¶ 2. Where there is a dispute between two or more members of our church concerning the payment of debts or other business matters, which cannot be settled by the parties concerned, the pastor shall recommend to the contending parties a committee of arbitration; one of which to be chosen by the plaintiff, another by the defendants, these two to choose a third, a majority of whom shall decide the case.

¶ 3. When a minister, preacher or member of our church fails in business and applies for the benefit of the insolvent or bankrupt laws, or makes an assignment or transfer of his property, and there is reason to believe that he has been guilty of dishonesty, or if he require an investigation, a committee shall be appointed as in other cases, and if there is evidence of intentional fraud, the said minister, preacher or member shall be dealt with as in other cases of immorality. When it shall appear there is no proper ground of censure, the committee shall furnish a certificate of honorable acquittal.

¶ 4. When any member of the church is reported to the pastor as walking disorderly, he, in connection with the advisory committee, shall make inquiry respecting the truth of the report, and if they

are satisfied that the person accused is by his conduct bringing reproach upon the church, the pastor, by the advice of the committee, shall admonish the offender to repent. If the person admonished bring forth fruits meet for repentance, no further notice shall be taken of the case; but if he persist in his sinful conduct, after repeated admonitions, the committee shall then prefer charges, and proceed according to the directions contained in the sections following:

¶ 5. When a charge of any offense recognized by the thirteenth article of the Constitution is preferred against an unstationed minister or preacher, the pastor, or, in his absence, any other minister belonging to the station or circuit whom he may select, after duly notifying the person accused shall appoint a committee of not less than three nor more than five ministers or preachers, before whom the accused shall appear at the time and place designated for the trial, which shall be in the neighborhood in which the offense is alleged to have been committed, or as near thereto as may be convenient.

The accused, as well as the prosecutor, may object to any member of the committee on account of his having prejudged the case, being prejudiced against the accused, or of being interested in the decision. The pastor, or presiding officer in the case, shall be confined to the limits of the district in his selection of ministers or preachers to serve on the committee. During any trial, the ministers, preachers and members of the church may attend.

¶ 6. Accused class leaders, stewards, trustees, exhorters and private members shall be tried by a committee appointed in the following manner, viz: The pastor, who shall preside at the trial, or in his absence from the station or circuit, any other minister or preacher the church may name (who shall report in due form the entire proceedings in the case to the pastor), shall appoint two persons in full membership and good standing, over the age of

twenty-one years, the church of which the accused is a member shall select two more in like standing, and these four persons, when chosen, shall select a fifth, which five shall constitute a competent court of trial. Where five cannot be obtained in any church, three male members appointed on the principle above shall suffice. And where this number of male members cannot be obtained in any church, the officiating minister or preacher, by consent of the church of which the accused is a member, may summon members from any adjoining church. The accused shall have the right to challenge any member, not exceeding that of the original committee. In all cases where written testimony is to be taken, due notice thereof shall be given to the opposite party of the time and place of taking such testimony in view of cross-examination. This shall likewise apply to ministers and preachers. The presiding officer in any trial shall be the judge of all questions of law that may arise in the case.

¶ 7. A secretary shall be appointed by the committee to take regular minutes of the evidence and proceedings of the trial; which, together with a copy of the decision, and all other documents belonging to the trial, shall be preserved by the pastor, who shall furnish each of the parties with a copy of the decision, if required.

¶ 8. If the accused be found guilty of the offense, the committee, or a majority thereof, shall, in their decision, name the penalty to which the accused shall be subjected; and the president or pastor shall carry it into effect. No higher penalty shall be inflicted for maladministration, or neglect of official duty, than removal from office. When this is done, the person so removed shall not fill the same office again without the approbation of the Quarterly or Annual Conference having jurisdiction.

¶ 9. In every instance of condemnation the accused minister, preacher or member determining to appeal from the decision of the committee shall signify in writing to the presiding officer within twen-

ty days after the close of the trial, his determination to appeal, and in default thereof his appeal shall not lie.

¶ 10. If an accused minister, preacher or member evade trial by absenting himself, after due notice shall have been given him, the investigation before the committee shall nevertheless, be instituted, and the testimony heard; and if a majority of the committee find him guilty of the charge or charges, the presiding officer shall carry the sentence into effect.

Section Two. Trial of Pastors and other Itinerants

¶ 1. Should the accused person be the pastor, or minister not answerable to a Quarterly Conference, the official notifications, appointment of the committee and similar duties shall be performed by the president of the Annual Conference, or such minister as he may appoint for the purpose. Over all committees which the president may convene for the trial of a minister or preacher, he shall preside as chairman, if present, preserve order and regulate the proceedings according to the rules of Discipline. If absent, the minister whom he may appoint as his proxy shall preside. In case of the trial of charges against a preacher, the judgment of the Annual Conference can affect his relations to that body only, the Quarterly Conference of which he is a member being the body to which he shall be amenable for his moral conduct.

Section Three. Trial of Churches

¶ 1. When any church shall, by any official act or declaration, evince a determination not to conform to the provisions of the Constitution and Discipline, it shall be the duty of the pastor, or if there be no pastor, any minister the Quarterly Conference may appoint, to make every reasonable and proper effort to induce said church to conform; but if these efforts prove unavailing, the pastor or minister ap-

pointed by the Quarterly Conference, shall nominate a committee of five male members, over the age of twenty-one years, neither of whom shall be a member of the accused church, but of some other church, or churches of the charge, but of which the accused is a component part, or of some adjoining charge, who shall meet at the place where said church holds its regular worship, and shall constitute a competent court of trial, and shall decide the case; provided, that said church, by its representative, shall have the right to challenge any number not exceeding that of the committee, and the right of appeal to the Quarterly Conference.

It shall be the duty of the pastor or minister to preside at the trial. The committee shall appoint a secretary, who shall take regular minutes thereof, and convey the same to the Quarterly Conference in case of an appeal. The accused church shall be furnished with a copy of the charges at least twenty days before the time of trial. If any church be found guilty of a departure from the Constitution, or the regulations of the Discipline, and will not agree to conform, it shall be declared no longer in connection with the Methodist Protestant Church, and shall be erased from the plan of the circuit. If the accused be a station, the president of the Annual Conference shall conduct the trial as above, and said station or church shall have the right of challenge, and of appeal to the ensuing Annual Conference.

¶ 2. When a church has been tried and is expelled from the Methodist Protestant Church, it shall be considered extinct, and the property, if any, shall be disposed of in the manner provided for the disposition of the property of extinct churches.

(See Chapter Two, Section Five, Paragraphs 10 and 11.)

CHAPTER FOUR. BOARDS OF ADMINISTRATION

Section One. The Board of Publication

1. The General Conference shall elect, at each quadrennial session, the Board of Publication of the Methodist Protestant Church which shall consist of five laymen and five ministers, one of this number to be the President of the General Conference ex-officio. The Editors and Publishing Agents shall be honorary members. This Board shall be incorporated under the title named, and shall be responsible to the General Conference.

2. Within thirty days after the adjournment of the General Conference, the Board of Publication shall meet and organize by the election of a President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer and two Committees of three members each, both including the President of the Board as Chairman, one of these Committees to supervise the affairs of the Board at Pittsburgh and the other at Baltimore, both under the general policy of the Board.

3. The Board shall also elect an Executive Committee of five members including the President of the Board and the President of the General Conference, which Committee shall have authority to act upon any matters requiring decision during the interim of the Board meetings.

4. The publishing houses of the Methodist Protestant Church shall be located at Pittsburgh and Baltimore, and shall be under the Board of Publication. The product of each house shall be made available for both houses.

5. The Methodist Protestant-Recorder shall be the official organ of the Methodist Protestant Church.

6. The Board of Publication shall decide, by a concurring majority vote of its members, what works shall bear the imprint of the denomination,

also fix the sale price of our copyrights and official papers, official organs, and Sunday School periodicals. The editing and production of all these publications shall be under the control of this Board, after consulting with the Curriculum Committee.

7. There shall be at least one meeting of the Board of Publication each year, the time to be fixed by the Board. Special meetings may be held on the call of the President, or of a majority of the members of the Board.

8. The Board of Publication shall have the power to remove, for sufficient cause, any of its own officers and elect others in their stead. Also to fill all vacancies in its own Board occasioned by death, resignation, or ceasing to be a member of the Methodist Protestant Church.

9. The General Conference shall determine what disposition shall be made of any surplus funds accruing from the business of the publishing houses.

10. The General Conference shall elect the editors of the official organ and of the Sunday School periodicals, and the Publishing Agents. Any vacancies that may occur in these elective offices in the interim of the meeting of the General Conference shall be filled by the Board of Publication.

11. The Board of Publication shall submit a report to the General Conference, which shall cover the business of each year separately and for the full quadrennium, together with any other matters which its responsibility to the General Conference should require to be submitted.

Section Two. The Board of Missions

Constitution

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be the "Board of Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church."

ARTICLE II

This Board is the resultant of the action of the General Conference taken at its quadrennial session in May 1928 to wit: "That this General Conference create a Board of Missions to which shall be entrusted the work now being done by the Union Board of Foreign Missionary Administration, the Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Home Missionary Society."

ARTICLE III

The purpose of this Board is the publication and extension of the Gospel of Jesus Christ on the continent of North America and in foreign lands, subject to the authority and direction of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, and in accordance with the authorized standards and usages of said Methodist Protestant Church by the employment and support of ministers and missionaries, by the erection of church edifices, by the establishing and supporting of schools for secular and religious training and by other lawful and appropriate means.

ARTICLE IV

This Board shall meet as soon as practicable after the adjournment of the General Conference for the purpose of organization. Thereafter, it shall meet annually at the time and place designated by the Executive Committee of the General Conference. Special meetings may be held at the call of the Executive Committee of the Board of Missions. The expense of these meetings shall be paid by the Board of Missions upon the presentation of an itemized statement by the members. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V

The membership of the Board of Missions shall be composed of five men and five women, four members to be ministers. They shall be elected

by the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church and shall be amenable to that body. The President of the General Conference and the President of the Missionary Convention shall be ex-officio members of the Board. The two Executive Secretaries hereinafter provided shall be honorary members.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1—The officers of the Board of Missions shall be President, Vice-President and Recording Secretary. They shall be elected annually by the Board of Missions and shall hold office until their successors are elected.

Section 2—There shall be two Executive Secretaries, a man and a woman, who shall be elected quadrennially by the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

ARTICLE VII

The Board of Missions shall elect from among its members for a term of one year, two men and two women who, with the President of the General Conference and the President of the Missionary Convention, shall constitute an Executive Committee. The President and Recording Secretary of the Board shall be two of these members. The Committee shall meet quarterly or at the call of the President of the Board. The Executive Committee of the Board shall apportion the Budget for women's work to the Branches and perform all the functions of the Board of Missions in the interim of the Board meetings. Four members of this Committee shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII

The Board of Missions shall in furtherance of the purpose stated in its charter have authority to establish missions and direct their work; to build churches, schools, homes, orphanages and

hospitals; to employ missionaries, pastors and workers, and supervise their labors; to fix the salaries of the Executive Secretaries and all other employees of the Board of Missions; to change and remove missionaries, ministers and workers as the interests of the board may demand; to vacate the pulpits of any churches that are being supplied by the Board when, in the judgment of the Board, the security of the property is involved in the peace, happiness and success of such congregation. The Board shall make no further appropriations to churches which refuse to be governed by this law. The Board may loan money upon satisfactory security for building purposes, either with or without interest; make donations for building purposes and assist in the payment of debts incurred in securing property, and should only be made when there is a probable surplus above expenses of the Board for the current year. The Board of Missions shall have authority to pension and support disabled ministers and missionaries and their dependent families who have served under this Board. This Board shall have power to buy, sell, hold in trust and administer all the funds of the Board of Missions in accordance with the purpose of this organization.

The Board shall have supervisory authority over the Women's Missionary Branches and Auxiliaries. It shall receive and act upon the reports of the Corresponding Secretaries of the Branches, and arrange with them work to be undertaken. As far as practicable it shall follow the recommendations of the Woman's Missionary Convention.

The Board shall promote religious education, disseminate missionary information and encourage a benevolent spirit in the churches. It shall arrange for the publication of the Missionary Record and the annual and quadrennial reports of the Board. The Easter and Children's Day services shall be published annually in the interest of this Board.

At each Annual Meeting the following standing committees shall be elected: Executive Committee, six members; Candidates Committee, four members; Investment Committee, five members; Safe-Deposit Box Committee, two members; and such other agencies shall be established as the work may require.

The Board of Missions shall have power to enact such by-laws as may be necessary in regulating the duties of its officers, the Executive Secretaries, or other matters not in violation of its Constitution.

ARTICLE IX

The Headquarters of the Board of Missions shall be located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

ARTICLE X

Annual Missionary Convention

There shall be an Annual Missionary Convention of the Women of the Methodist Protestant Church which shall be held during the week preceding the Annual Meeting of Board of Missions.

ARTICLE XI

This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board by a vote of two-thirds of its members present, subject to approval of the General Conference or its Executive Committee, provided such amendments shall have first been recommended by the Executive Committee of the Board or presented in writing at a preceding annual meeting.

By-Laws

ARTICLE I

Duties of Officers

Section 1—The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee. He shall sign all vouchers with the two Executive

Secretaries and all other legal papers with the Recording Secretary of the Board of Missions. He shall call all special meetings of the Executive Committee and perform such other duties as usually pertain to the office of President.

Section 2—The Vice-President, acting in the absence of the President, shall have full power to exercise all functions pertaining to the office of President.

Section 3—The Recording Secretary shall keep complete minutes of all meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee, and when possible shall present the minutes for approval before the adjournment of each meeting.

Section 4—The man Executive Secretary shall act under the direction of the Board of Missions and the Executive Committee. He shall send out notices of all meetings of the Board of Missions and the Executive Committee and prepare agenda for the same. He shall carry on all the work of the Board not otherwise provided for, and perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Board of Missions or the Executive Committee.

Section 5—The woman Executive Secretary shall act under the direction of the Board of Missions and the Executive Committee. She shall conduct promotional work among the women and girls of the church; organize new branches and auxiliaries; keep in touch with the Branches through their officers and committees; provide the secretaries of the various departments with literature, suggestive programs, thank-offering boxes, membership certificates and information concerning missionary work at home and abroad. She shall advise as to the disposition of funds for scholarships and native workers; credit the interest on all perpetual memberships to the Branches and Auxiliaries from which these memberships are received, notifying them annually of the amount. She shall present a complete report of her own work and that of the

Branches at the annual meeting of the Board of Missions. She shall edit the Missionary Record and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Missions or the Executive Committee.

Section 6—The Treasurer of the General Conference shall be the treasurer of this Board. He shall receive all monies belonging to the Board and shall receipt for the same. He shall keep an accurate account of all financial transactions making a monthly report to the Executive Committee and an annual report to the Board of Missions. He shall provide the Executive Secretaries a monthly statement of all moneys received and their destination. The Treasurer shall honor all orders of the Board of Missions or Executive Committee upon the treasury, and when called upon shall exhibit the books, vouchers and securities to the members of the Executive Committee, and to the Board at its annual meeting. He shall pay all bills, salaries and miscellaneous expenses upon vouchers signed by the President and the two Executive Secretaries. He shall disburse other funds as directed by the Board of Missions at its annual meeting or in the interim by the Executive Committee. He shall keep all monies of the Board for investments on deposit in such bank or banks as shall be approved by the Executive Committee and in the name of the Board of Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church to be withdrawn only upon vouchers signed by the President and the two Executive Secretaries. The Treasurer shall have custody of all securities and properties belonging to the Board. These securities shall be placed in a safe-deposit box approved by this Board, to which the Treasurer shall have access only when accompanied by one of the two members of the committee on safe-deposit box. The Treasurer shall also have authority to buy or sell upon approval of the Board of Missions or the Executive Committee. The account of the Treasurer shall be audited by a certified public

accountant approved by the Executive Committee.

All annuity money shall be invested in interest-bearing securities until the death of the annuitant, or annuitants. The Treasurer and the Executive Secretaries shall be bonded in such amount as the Board of Missions shall deem necessary; the premium on said bond to be paid by the Board of Missions.

ARTICLE II

Committees

The Executive Committee shall call all special meetings of the Board of Missions, and shall perform all the functions of said Board in the interim of the Board meetings.

The Candidate Committee shall examine all applicants for work in the foreign field as directed by the Board of Missions and arrange for their medical examination.

The Investment Committee shall have power to make all investments subject to the approval or direction of the Board or the Executive Committee.

The Safe-Deposit Committee shall accompany the Treasurer when he is given access to the Safe-Deposit Box.

ARTICLE III

Annual Missionary Convention

Section 1—The purpose of the Annual Missionary Convention shall be to consider the work of the women in the missionary program of the church, to review the needs and opportunities in all our mission fields, to conduct a school of methods for missionary workers and to engage in any other activity that will advance the Women's Missionary work of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Section 2—The membership of the Convention shall consist of the women members of the Board of Missions, the woman Executive Secretary, the officers of the Convention, the Committee on Program and Findings, the Committee on Education, Secretaries of Departments, women members of the Board of Christian Education, women members of the Executive Committee of the General Conference, the President and Corresponding Secretary and two elected delegates from each of the Conference Branches or alternates duly elected by the respective Branches, one of whom should be from young people's group.

Section 3—The expenses of the women members of the Board of Missions, the Associate Executive Secretary, the officers of the Convention, and the chairman of the Committee on Education shall be met by the Board of Missions. The expenses of the Branch representatives shall be met by their respective Branches.

Section 4—The Annual Convention shall elect a President, Vice-President, Assistant Secretary, Departmental Secretaries, and two Standing Committees which shall be known as a Committee on Education and a Committee on Program and Findings, and they shall not serve for a period longer than four consecutive years. The woman Executive Secretary shall be the Secretary of the Missionary Convention.

Section 5—At each annual convention, the Committee on Education, consisting of five members, shall through addresses, round-table discussions, question boxes and exhibits give to the representatives of Branches suggestive programs, methods of raising money, ways of interesting women in the work and other information which will assist them in the activities of the Branches and Auxiliaries.

Section 6—The Committee on Program and Findings shall consist of five members, three of whom

shall be the officers of the Annual Convention. The Committee shall arrange the program for the Annual Convention with the purpose of presenting the entire work of the church both educational and missionary. It shall include in its program a department of methods which shall be under the direction of the Committee on Education. It shall review the whole missionary program of the denomination, its needs and opportunities, and present its findings in a report to the Annual Convention which, when adopted, shall be presented to the Board of Missions for review and adoption as far as may be practicable in the interest of the work.

Section 7—The duties of the officers shall be such as usually belong to their offices.

ARTICLE IV

Branches—The women of any conference district may form a Branch by adopting the constitution and by-laws provided by the Board of Missions, and electing the officers which it requires. All such organizations shall act under the direction of the Board of Missions, through which they shall be amenable to the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

ARTICLE V

Auxiliaries—An auxiliary may be formed by any number of women who shall adopt the Constitution and By-Laws provided by the Board of Missions, and elect the officers which it requires. All such organizations shall be represented in the Branch where they are located, and shall work in harmony with the Board of Missions, through which they shall be amenable to the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

ARTICLE VI

An amendment to these By-Laws may be made at any regular meeting of the Board of Missions,

provided the amendment has been recommended by the Executive Committee or presented in writing at a previous annual meeting.

Section Three. Board of Christian Education Constitution

ARTICLE I

The General Conference shall elect at each quadrennial session a Board of Christian Education of the Methodist Protestant Church continuing the Board of Ministerial Education, the Board of Education and the Board of Young People's Work. This Board shall be composed of five ministers and five laymen, one of this number to be the President of the General Conference ex-officio. No person employed by or officially connected with any of our educational institutions shall be eligible to serve on this Board.

ARTICLE II

The General Conference shall elect at each quadrennial session two Executive Secretaries of the Board, one in charge of the work of a Department of Educational institutions, and the other in charge of the work of a Department of Religious Education. Both Executive Secretaries shall be under the direction of the Board, and each shall be directly responsible to the Board for the conduct of the work of his Department. The Board in conjunction with the Executive Secretaries shall correlate the work of the two Departments wherever possible to promote efficiency and economy of administration. The Executive Secretaries shall be honorary members of the Board.

ARTICLE III

The Board of Christian Education shall meet within thirty days after the close of the General

Conference and organize by electing a President, a Recording Secretary, and two other members who shall constitute the Executive Committee. This committee shall perform all functions of the Board in the interim of Board meetings, making a record of its actions and reporting the same to the annual meeting of the Board.

The annual meeting of the Board shall be held at such time and place as the denominational Executive Committee shall designate. Special meetings shall be held at the call of the President or upon the written request of two members.

ARTICLE IV

The Board shall determine the amount of salary paid the Executive Secretaries and any other individuals it may be necessary to employ, and shall pay all administrative and traveling expenses.

ARTICLE V

The Board shall have power to remove the Executive Secretaries from office for just cause, and, if for any cause either of the offices become vacant, it shall have power to fill it until the succeeding General Conference, also to fill any vacancies occurring in the membership in the Board.

ARTICLE VI

The Executive Secretaries shall each be required to render to the Board a report of the activities of his Department, to submit an itemized statement of receipts and disbursements, and to present to the General Conference a review of the activities of his Department during the preceding quadrennium.

ARTICLE VII

The Board of Christian Education shall devote itself to the promotion and advancement of the en-

tire cause of Christian Education in the denomination and shall have the oversight of the denominational program of Christian education as carried forward by the various educational organizations and institutions of the Methodist Protestant Church. It shall corporate with recognized interdenominational educational agencies as far as possible.

ARTICLE VIII

The Board shall have power to enact all necessary by-laws regulating the duties of officers, and to make regulations concerning the beneficiaries under its care.

Section 1

Ministerial Education

A. It shall be the duty of the Executive Secretary and those associated with him in the work of the Board to present the claims of the Christian ministry as extensively as possible. Special attention shall be given to the group of Methodist Protestant students in our colleges and seminary.

B. The Board shall make loans to our ministerial students, when necessary, out of the fund provided for that purpose, said fund being known as the Ministerial Education Fund, and subject to the conditions specified herein.

(a) The Ministerial Education Fund shall consist of all moneys and other property placed in the hands of the Board for the purpose of training Methodist Protestant young people, in the schools of the denomination, for the Gospel ministry of the church. Such money or property shall be invested with approved security and kept inviolate. The income from the investments shall be placed in the Distributive Fund which, with return payments from beneficiaries, shall be used as loans to our ministerial candidates.

(b) All assistance rendered young people preparing for the Gospel ministry shall be in the form of loans without interest, to be returned to the Board, after they shall have entered upon the work of the ministry. In case any person thus aided fails within one year to enter upon, and continue in the ministry of the Methodist Protestant Church, the entire amount of money loaned by the Board shall be due with interest at five per cent (5%) per annum from the time the several amounts were received. If any beneficiary of the Board shall purpose to leave the Methodist Protestant Church before having repaid the loan made by the Board, papers shall be withheld by the President of the Annual Conference of which such beneficiary is a member until such debt shall have been paid. No Annual Conference President shall give a letter of standing to any minister or preacher in his Conference until he knows that such minister or preacher is not indebted to the Board of Christian Education. Interest on these loans, at the rate of 5 per cent, shall begin on the first day of July next after the borrower leaves school, either permanently or temporarily. However, no interest will be charged the borrower during the years spent in the active ministry of the Methodist Protestant Church, provided the loans received from the Board of Christian Education are paid in full within ten years.

(c) All ministerial beneficiaries indebted to the Board for either their college or seminary training shall be entitled to a cancellation of fifty per cent (50%) of their loans, provided, they have spent five years in the ministry of the Methodist Protestant Church, and provided further, that they have paid fifty per cent (50%) of their loan within that period. College graduates graduating from Westminster Theological Seminary shall be entitled to scholarships in the amount of one-half of the loans received while in the Seminary, provided that

they spend at least three years in the ministry of the denomination.

(d) A ministerial student shall not receive assistance from the Board except upon the recommendation of the Quarterly Conference of the Church to which he belongs, or from the Annual Conference of which he is a member, and until the blank provided by the Board is properly filled out and accepted. Loans to any individual shall not exceed \$200.00 a year.

(e) It shall be the duty of the Executive Secretary to advise annually the Presidents of the several Annual Conferences of all ministers or preachers employed by them who are in debt to the Board.

Section 2

Student Loan Fund

A. The Student Loan Fund shall consist of all money or property placed in the hands of the Board for the purpose of assisting Methodist Protestant young. The same shall be invested with approved security and kept inviolate. The income from the investments shall be placed in the Distributive Fund, which, with return payments from beneficiaries, shall be loaned to students approved by the Board.

B. Student Loan beneficiaries shall not receive loans in excess of one hundred and fifty dollars, (\$150) a year. Upon leaving school, either temporarily or permanently, the loan shall become due and interest shall be charged at the rate of 4 per cent per annum, refunds to be made at the rate of \$25.00 per year.

Section 3

General Education Fund

The General Education Fund shall consist of all money and other property coming to the Board

from any source, unless otherwise designated, and intended for the support of the Board's work. This fund shall be invested with approved security and kept inviolate. The income from the investments shall be used in the discretion of the Board to promote the educational interests of the denomination.

Section 4

Colleges and Seminary

A. The Board of Christian Education shall see that the affairs of our colleges and seminary are carefully and economically administered; that they are conducted in keeping with the Christian ideals of the Methodist Protestant Church and the educational standards established by the states in which they are located or by other recognized standardizing agencies; and shall make appropriations to them from available funds according to their needs.

B. The Board shall have power to determine where schools are to be located, and, until it shall have been approved by the Board, no school, of any grade, shall receive aid or bear the name of the denomination.

C. If at any time, the Board shall decide, by a two-thirds vote of its members, that the educational interest of the denomination will be best conserved by so doing, it shall have the authority of the denomination to merge any of the educational institutions under the authority of the denomination, or make such other disposition of them as will, in every case, advance the work of Christian education within the denomination. In the exercise of this authority the advice of the Executive Committee of the General Conference shall be obtained. The proceeds of such mergers, sales or transactions, if any, shall be placed in the General Education Fund of the Board, and the income thereof used to promote the work as directed or determined by the Board.

D. All money, securities, and other property hereafter given or bequeathed to or for the use of any educational institution under the authority of the denomination, shall be placed in the hands of the Board of Christian Education for investment, and shall be kept separate and distinct and designated by the name of the institution for whose use the same was given or bequeathed, and shall be invested in securities approved by the Board, and the interest accruing therefrom shall be paid as received to the institution for whose use the fund was given or bequeathed, except when in the discretion of the Board, it may be administered by the institution concerned.

Section 5

Religious Education

A. The Board of Christian Education shall have oversight of the denominational program of religious education, (as carried forward by the Sundays Schools, Christian Endeavor Societies, Vacation and Week-day Church Schools, Leadership Training Schools, Young People's Conferences, and similar agencies.)

B. The Board shall have the power to organize Annual Conference Councils of Religious Education in the various Annual Conference districts which shall be organized on the basis of the following Constitution:

NAME

The name of this organization shall be the.....
Annual Conference Council of Religious Education
of the Methodist Protestant Church.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Council shall be to promote the denominational program of Religious Education as proposed and endorsed by the Board of

Christian Education of the Methodist Protestant Church, to co-ordinate more closely that program with the activities of the local churches within this Annual Conference, and to seek through education and training the extension of the Christian religion.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The membership of this Council shall consist of the Officers and Members of the Executive Committee, the Pastors of the churches within this Annual Conference, and other representatives of the churches elected in the manner provided for in Section 2.

Section 2. The "Committee on Religious Education" of each local church in the Annual Conference shall have the right to elect one or more representatives as members of this Council on the basis of one representative for each two hundred, or major fraction thereof, enrolled in the membership of the church school, as reported to the last preceding Annual Conference session, provided that every Methodist Protestant Church shall have the right to at least one, and not more than three representatives. In churches which have no such organization, representatives may be elected by the Quarterly Conference.

The "Committee on Religious Education" as used in this section is interpreted as meaning that organization in each local church which is responsible to the church for the conduct of its total program of Religious Education as carried forward by the Sunday School, Christian Endeavor Societies, Vacation and Week-Day Church Schools, and other similar agencies.

Section 3. The Secretary of the Council shall be notified in writing of the election of the representatives provided for in Section 2.

OFFICERS

Section 1. The Officers of the Council shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a

Treasurer, who shall be elected annually in the Annual Meeting of the Council, and shall hold office until their successors are elected. These officers may or may not be members of the Council at the time of their election.

Section 2. These officers shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their respective offices.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Officers of the Council, the President of the Annual Conference and two other members to be elected by the Annual Conference.

Section 2. The Annual Conference may elect two members of the Executive Committee, one of whom shall serve for one year from the time of election and the other for two years, after which the Annual Conference may elect annually one member who shall serve for a term of two years. If the Annual Conference fail to so elect its complement of membership, the additional members shall be elected in the Annual Meeting of the Council.

Section 3. If and when this Council or the Annual Conference shall employ a Field Secretary, or Director of Religious Education, such employed worker shall be ex-officio a member of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. The Executive Committee shall meet at least annually, preceding the Annual Meeting of the Council, and at other times upon the call of the President or upon the written request of two members of the Committee.

Section 5. The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies and to perform all functions of the Council in the interim of Annual Meetings.

Section 6. The Executive Committee shall report to the Annual Business Meeting of the Council and shall present a report on behalf of the Council to the Annual Conference.

MEETINGS

Section 1. The Council shall hold an Annual Meeting in connection with the sessions of the Annual Conference, or the Conference Leadership Training School, or at some other time and place as may be determined by the Executive Committee. Notice of the time and place of the Annual Meeting shall be given to the members of the Council at least a month in advance of the proposed meeting.

Section 2. The Council may hold such other meetings as it may consider desirable and necessary.

DEPARTMENTS

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall set up the following Departments of Work and shall appoint annually a Director for each department: Children's Work, Young People's Work, Adult Work, Leadership Training, Vacation and Week-day Church Schools, Missionary Education and Stewardship, Educational Institutions and Student Life, and such other departments as may be deemed necessary from time to time, provided that two or more departments may be combined if and when this may seem desirable.

Section 2. The Directors of these Departments shall work in close cooperation with similar Departments in the Board of Christian Education of the Methodist Protestant Church and shall assist in relating the program of this Board to the activities of the local churches in this Annual Conference. The Directors shall report annually to the Executive Committee of the Council.

LEADERSHIP SCHOOLS

Section 1. The Department of Leadership Training shall conduct annually a Conference Leadership Training School at a time and place to be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The Conference Leadership Training School shall be under the joint direction of the Director of Leadership Training of the Council and a Dean who shall be elected by the Executive Committee of the Council. The Director of Leadership Training shall have charge of business matters and of the organization and promotion of the school. The Dean shall have supervision of the curriculum, faculty, class work, daily program, etc. The Dean must be accredited by the Board of Christian Education of the Methodist Protestant Church and is responsible to this Board for the educational standards of the school. The records of the school shall be kept by the Secretary of the Council unless otherwise provided.

Section 3. The Department of Leadership Training shall promote and encourage local leadership training classes and schools throughout the Annual Conference in conformity with the standards of the Board of Christian Education.

Section 4. The Department of Leadership Training, in cooperation with the Department of Young People's Work, shall have general oversight of the Young People's Conferences, Boys' and Girls' Camps, and similar leadership enterprises held within the Annual Conference territory and shall assist in maintaining the denominational standards in such activities.

FINANCES

Section 1. Upon the recommendation of the Council, it shall be the duty of the Annual Conference to make provision for financing the work of the Council, but if such provision shall be found inadequate, the Council may levy a special assessment upon the educational agencies of the local churches constituent to the Council, or it may call for special offerings.

Section 2. All funds of the Council shall be held in trust by the Treasurer of the Council and shall

be paid out only upon the authority of the Executive Committee or upon the written order of the President and Secretary.

Section 3. The accounts of the Treasurer shall be audited annually by a committee appointed for this purpose by the Executive Committee.

AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present in any Annual Meeting of the Council, provided notice of the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing to the Executive Committee prior to the date of the Annual Meeting, and provided further that such amendment shall be approved by the Board of Christian Education of the Methodist Protestant Church before becoming effective.

Section Four. Board of Managers of the General Superannuated Fund

¶ 1. The Executive Committee of the General Conference shall be the Board of Managers of the General Superannuated Fund. The laws governing the meetings of the Executive Committee shall be the laws governing the meeting of the Board of Managers.

¶ 2. The Officers of this Board shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, to be elected by the Board of Managers from its members at the Annual Meeting next succeeding the Quadrennial Session of the General Conference at which said Managers are elected, and shall thereafter hold office for four years, or until their successors are elected.

¶ 3. The President (and in his absence the Vice-President) shall preside at all meetings, and discharge such other duties as usually pertain to said office.

If neither the President nor the Vice-President

be present at any meeting, a chairman may be elected by those present.

¶ 4. The Secretary shall keep a proper record of all the proceedings, and perform such other duties as pertain to his office, or such as the President or Board of Managers may require.

¶ 5. The Treasurer shall keep all accounts of the Board: he shall be the custodian of all funds and securities belonging to the Board, receive all moneys payable thereto, and keep the same in the name of the Board in such bank or other place of deposit as the Board of Managers may designate, and shall give such corporate bond as the Board may from time to time require, the expense of same to be paid by the Board.

He shall be the disbursing officer of the Board and shall make such payments and distributions of its funds as the Board of Managers may direct.

¶ 6. The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall constitute an Executive Committee in whom all the powers of the Board of Managers shall be vested in the interim between regular meetings of the Board, and shall report its actions on all matters at the next ensuing meeting of the Board.

The Executive Committee may meet at such times and places as may be designated by the President.

¶ 7. The assets of this Board shall be divided into two classes, a PERMANENT FUND and a DISTRIBUTIVE FUND.

All money and other property received or acquired by this Board, other than moneys paid to or received thereby through and under the direction of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, shall form part of its Permanent Fund, and shall be held and invested in the name of the Board, and the income alone therefrom shall be used and applied for the beneficial purposes and objects of the Board, and no part of the corpus or principal shall be used therefor.

In addition thereto, until otherwise directed by action of the General Conference, twenty per centum (20%) of moneys received from the Budget Fund of the General Conference shall be placed to the credit and form part of the Permanent Fund.

All moneys received through or under the authority of the General Conference from collections made for the purpose of this Board from the several Annual Conferences, through the Budget Fund or otherwise, after applying 20 per cent thereof as above to the Permanent Fund, unless otherwise directed or designated by the General Conference, together with the income from the Permanent Fund, shall be credited to the Distributive Fund, and after payment thereof of the necessary expenses of the Board, which shall not (after the payment of the expenses of organization) exceed five per cent of the total amount, shall be used and distributed under the direction of the Board of Managers for the relief of the Superannuated Ministers of the several Conferences of the Methodist Protestant Church, their widows and orphans, who shall be duly certified as entitled to share therein as beneficiaries as below set forth; provided, however, that until the Permanent Fund shall amount to the sum of \$100,000, no distribution shall be made, but all receipts from the Budget shall be added to and form part of the Permanent Fund.

¶ 8. The Secretary of each Annual Conference shall annually forward to the Secretary of this Board at least ninety days before its Annual Meeting a list of the Superannuated Ministers connected with and so designated by such respective Conference, with their respective addresses, particularly specifying the date of their respective admittance to said Conference, the number of years of active itinerate service, exclusive of other business or occupation, in said Conference by each respectively, the date when designated as Superannuates by such Conference, and the amount of

aid received by them as Superannuates from any fund for said purpose held for or under the control of such Conference; also, in case of the death of any such Superannuated Minister, the names and addresses of his widow or dependent children, giving specifically the ages of such children, and whether receiving any aid from said Conference, and the amount thereof, with full information as above as to the respective husband or father (the deceased Superannuate).

The above report shall be duly certified by the President and Secretary of the respective Conferences, and only such Claimants as are so certified shall be considered by the Board in making the annual distribution, the Board reserving the right to call for such further information as may be deemed necessary and advisable.

¶ 9. To each Superannuated Minister a pro-rata allowance should be paid so far as the amount for distribution will be sufficient therefore, at the rate of ten dollars per year for each year of active itinerant service in the Ministry of the Methodist Protestant Church as a member of his respective Conference, from any fund held by or under its control for such purpose:

PROVIDED, however, that no allowance shall be made unless said active itinerant service shall have continued for at least five years.

PROVIDED, further that the rule shall be that the annual amount allowed to any minister shall not exceed the amount that he may be allowed and receive through his respective Conference from any fund held by or under its control for such purpose;

To the widow of such Superannuated Minister, when the marriage took place prior to his becoming a Superannuate, or to his dependent orphan children under the age of sixteen years collectively, an allowance of one-half of the amount as above determined.

PROVIDED, however, that the Board shall be vested

with full discretion as to the making of any of said allowances, or increasing or decreasing same, as the special circumstances and needs in each case may be deemed to require.

¶ 10. When said distribution shall have been directed by the Board of Managers as above, the Treasurer shall remit the respective allowance directly to the several beneficiaries: in case of the minority of any such beneficiary having no legal guardian, the amount of his or her allowance may, in the discretion of the Board of Managers, be directed to be paid to such person as the Board may deem proper to receive the same for the benefit of such minor.

¶ 11. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of such beneficiaries as above determined and designated by the Board of Managers, and of the respective allowances to each as above made, and of the payments thereof.

¶ 12. The Board of Managers shall transmit to each Quadrennial Session of the General Conference a full and detailed report of all its transactions during the quadrennium, of all its receipts, investments and disbursements, with a list as above of the several beneficiaries and the respective amounts paid to each.

¶ 13. These By-Laws may be amended by action of a majority of the Board at any Annual Meeting, or at any special meeting, provided such proposed amendment or amendments shall have been submitted in writing to each member of the Board at least ten days prior to said special meeting. Said change or changes to be approved by the succeeding General Conference.

Section Five. The Board of Administration

¶ 1. The name of this Board shall be the Board of Administration of the Methodist Protestant Church.

¶ 2. The following shall constitute the membership of the Board: the members of the Executive Committee; the members of the Board of Missions;

the members of the Board of Christian Education; the members of the Board of Publication; the President of the Woman's Missionary Convention; the Treasurer of the General Conference; the presidents of Adrian College, of High Point College, of Western Maryland College, of Westminster College, and of Westminster Theological Seminary; the Executive Secretary and the Associate Executive Secretary of the Board of Missions; the Executive Secretary and the Associate Executive Secretary of the Board of Christian Education; the editors of the Methodist Protestant-Recorder and of the Sunday School literature; and the presidents of the Annual Conferences.

¶ 3. The President of the General Conference shall be the presiding officer.

¶ 4. The Board shall meet annually, preferably in relation to the time of the annual meetings of the Board of Missions, the Board of Christian Education, and the Women's Missionary Convention.

¶ 5. It shall be the duty of the Board of Administration to review the entire field of the Denomination in all its interests, in its broader needs and responsibilities, making such inquiry into the affairs of the various Boards, agencies and activities as may furnish it with informational data by means of which it may arrive at proper decisions. This Board shall fix an annual program not inconsistent with the purpose of the General Conference for the Denomination at large, outline a message to the entire Church and seek to correlate the affairs of the Church in its broader phases.

¶ 6. This Board shall have authority to review the operation of the General Conference budget; to hear appeals on the part of participating agencies concerning their share of the budget; to make such percentage revisions as may be found necessary to correct apparent inequities; and to withhold participation in the budget from any agency of the De-

nomination which may indulge in unauthorized solicitation or whose course of action may be adjudged out of harmony with the provisions of the budget.

¶ 7. The expenses of the members of this Board shall be borne by the agency each may represent on the Board.

Section Six. Laymen's Fellowship

¶ 1. The name of this organization shall be "The Laymen's Fellowship of the Methodist Protestant Church."

¶ 2. The officers of the general denominational Laymen's Fellowship shall be a President, a Vice-President, and a Secretary-Treasurer. These officers shall be elected by the General Conference.

¶ 3. The officers of the general denominational Laymen's Fellowship together with the President of the General Conference shall constitute the Board of Officers.

¶ 4. It shall be the duty of the Board of Officers to promote in each Annual Conference the organization of a Laymen's Fellowship and to prepare for such organizations, as occasion may demand, programs of activities.

¶ 5. The Annual Conference Laymen's Fellowship shall be composed of representatives, one from each charge in the Annual Conference.

¶ 6. The officers of the Annual Conference Laymen's Fellowship shall be a President and a Secretary-Treasurer.

¶ 7. It shall be the duty of the President to act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Officers of the general denominational organization and to promote the program of activities through sub-district and local organizations within his own Annual Conference district.

¶ 8. The Annual Conference district shall be divided into sub-districts. Each sub-district shall

choose, at a sub-district meeting, a leader for the Fellowship activities within its bounds. In case a sub-district fails to make such choice, such leader may be elected by the Annual Conference Laymen's Fellowship.

¶ 9. A key-man shall be selected as the leader in each local church, and, in circuits, a chairman shall be chosen by the key-men of that circuit.

Section Seven

Annual Conference Boards of Church Extension

¶ 1. Each Annual Conference shall organize a Board of Church Extension within its district, to be called the Board of Church Extension of..... Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, to be located in.....State of.....under the following Articles of Incorporation:

¶ 2. The Conference shall elect five members—three ministers and two laymen—who shall constitute the Board of Church Extension, and continue in office for one year, or until their successors are elected by the Annual Conference.

¶ 3. It shall be the duty of the Board to meet immediately after their election and organize by electing a president, secretary, treasurer and executive committee, and proceed without delay to become an incorporated body under the laws of the State in which it may be located.

¶ 4. The Board thus incorporated shall have power to make its own by-laws, and meet at such times and places as it may determine.

¶ 5. It shall receive all moneys raised by the Conference for the Church Extension Board, and disburse the same under the direction of the Annual Conference.

¶ 6. The Board shall keep a faithful oversight of all the mission work and property of the Conference, and see that none of it is placed in jeopardy for debt or otherwise.

¶ 7. In the interval of the Conference, if it shall be necessary, the Board may make appropriations; but in all such cases it shall report the same, with a full report of all its proceedings, to the Conference at its next annual session.

¶ 8. The Board shall report to the Conference at each annual session the amount of money needed for the ensuing year, and if the Conference approve the report, it shall proceed to make arrangements to raise the same and pay it into the treasury of the Board.

¶ 9. It shall also be the duty of the Board to inquire into the wants of all parts of the Conference District, and locate new missions in such places only as there is a prospect of building up self-sustaining churches.

¶ 10. All the funds that shall come into the hands of the Board from the sale of church property shall go into a building fund to be carefully controlled by the Board, which shall be loaned to incorporated Boards of Trustees on real estate mortgage, at not more than half its value, to aid in building chapels and parsonages under the provisions of the Discipline.

CHAPTER FIVE. FORMS OF OFFICIAL CHURCH PAPERS

¶ 1. Release from a Station or Circuit

....., the bearer, is hereby released from any further obligation to continue his ministerial labors in Station (or Circuit); and is also entitled to this testimony of his good moral standing in the Methodist Protestant Church.

....., President.

Date.....

¶ 2. License to Exhort

....., a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, residing in the..... Station or Circuit is hereby authorized to exercise himself, on all proper occasions, in exhortation, and calling sinners to repentance.

This license to be renewed annually.

Signed by order, and in behalf of the Quarterly Conference of

....., Chairman.

....., Secretary.

Date

¶ 3. License to Preach

....., a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, residing in the..... Station or Circuit, being duly examined by this Quarterly Conference on gifts, grace and acquirements, is hereby authorized to preach the Gospel of Christ.

This license to be renewed annually.

Signed by order, and in behalf of the Quarterly Conference of

....., Secretary.

Date

Renewed

....., Chairman.

....., Secretary.

¶ 4. License to Administer the Ordinances

....., having been duly examined and approved by the Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, is hereby given authority for one year to administer the Lord's Supper, to baptize and to celebrate matrimony.

Signed by order, and in behalf of the Annual Conference.

....., Secretary , President.
Date

¶ 5. Elder's Credentials

To all whom it may concern, greeting:

Be it known, that, having been elected by the Annual Conference of Ministers and Delegates, was ordained for the office of Elder in the Methodist Protestant Church, and he is hereby authorized by said Conference, so long as his life and doctrine accord with the Holy Scripture, to administer the Lord's Supper; to baptize; to celebrate matrimony, and to feed the flock of God, taking the oversight not as a lord over God's heritage, but being an example to the flock. Signed by order, and in behalf of the Annual Conference.

....., President.
....., Secretary.
Date

¶ 6. Certificate of Church Membership

This is to certify that, the bearer hereof, is an acceptable member of the Methodist Protestant Church in and having requested a transfer of membership to the church in is affectionately commended to the fellowship of said Church.

When the Church receiving this certificate acknowledges receipt of the same h—— membership in this church shall cease. Not valid after six months.

.....Charge
.....Date, Pastor.

Addresss to the person receiving a certificate:

Dear——: As you are about to remove from the vicinity of the church with which you have been connected, it is most important that you should, as early as possible, unite yourself to some church of your own denomination, and if there be none accessible, to seek such church relations as will promote your highest spiritual good. It is the most sincere desire of your pastor that you may constantly enjoy the favor of God; that your faith and diligence may increase, and that you may be kept by the power of God blameless unto eternal life.

....., Pastor.

¶ 7. Certificate for An Unstationed Minister or Preacher Who Desires to Remove

The bearer,, an unstationed minister of the Methodist Protestant Church, desiring to remove from this Charge, is entitled to receive from the undersigned this certificate of his good standing.

.....Pastor.

....., Charge. Date.....

¶ 8. Certificate for a Stationed Minister or Preacher Who desires to Remove to Another District

The bearer,, having fully complied with his engagements to the Annual Conference, his moral character standing fair, and being desirous of removing to another district, is entitled to this certificate of his good standing.

.....President of the

.....Annual Conference.

Date.....

¶ 9. Transfer

The bearer,....., of the.....Annual Conference, having consented to be transferred to the Annual Conference, is hereby duly transferred.

.....President of the
.....Annual Conference.

Date'.....

.....President of the
.....Annual Conference.

Date.....

¶ 10. Certificates of Election

TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This is to certify that, was duly elected a delegate to the Annual Conference of the District, to sit in on the day of, 19....., by the of the

....., Chairman.
.....Secretary.

TO GENERAL CONFERENCE

....., was duly elected by theAnnual Conference, held on this day of, 19...., a ministerial (or lay) representative to the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, to sit in the City of, on the day of, 19....

....., Chairman.
.....Secretary.

¶ 11. Certificate of Admission to the Methodist Protestant Church

On the.....day of.....19.....
....., was admitted to membership in the Methodist Protestant Church.

Signed in behalf of the.....
Church, by

.....Pastor.

Dear.....

You have been loved, redeemed and regenerated

by God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. On profession of faith and consecration to the service of God, you have been honored by admission to membership in the Methodist Protestant Church. You should daily study your Bible, and make yourself acquainted with the little book which you now hold in your hand. Determine that you will be two things in the order in which they are herein named.

1st. —I will be an intelligent Christian.

2nd. —I will be an intelligent member of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Form of a Marriage Register, to be kept by the Quarterly Conferences.

Man's Name	Woman's Name	When Married	Where Married	Minister's Name
L.....S.....	E.....R.....	Dec. 5, 1830	At the house of N.....M.....	S.....W.....

Form of Register of Baptism, to be kept by the Quarterly Conferences.

Name	When Born	When Baptised	Minister's Name	Parent's Name
C.....H.....	Sept. 5, 1830	Dec. 9, 1830	D.....E.....	L.....H..... F.....A.....

PASTOR'S RECORD.

No.	Names	Probation	Reception	
			Election	Certificate
1	J.....	Jan. 1st, 19.....	May 1st, 19.....	.....
2	S.....	.....	.....	Jan. 1st, 19.....
3	P.....	Jan. 1st, 19.....	.....	.....
4	J.....	Feb. 2d, 19.....	Jan. 2d, 19.....	.....
5	M.....	April 1st, 19.....	Aug. 1st, 19.....	.....
6	P.....	June 3d, 19.....	Nov. 1st, 19.....	.....
7	L.....	.....	Nov. 1st, 19.....	Returned.....
8	P.....	.....	Returned.....	Dec. 1st, 19.....
	B..... [ ]—	.....	.....	.....

1. When a name is received on probation, enter the date under the word "Probation."
2. When a Probationer is elected to full membership, enter the date under "Election."
3. When a name is received by Certificate, enter the date under "Certificate."
4. When a person dismissed by certificate returns, enter the word "Returned" under "Election" and the date under "Certificate."
5. When a person dismissed by removal returns without certificate, enter the date under "Probation and Election"; and under certificate enter the word "Returned."
6. When a woman's name is changed by marriage, enter, after her maiden name, her name by marriage in brackets.
7. Let the numerals under "No." commence with the organization of the Church, and continue with its history, so as to show the total number of names received.

PASTOR'S RECORD.

No.	Minister's Name	Discontinuance		Remarks
		Manner of	Date of	
1	J.....F..... (Appointed Mar. 19....)	Deceased.....	Dec. 2d, 19.....	
2	"	Removed	Jan. 1st, 19.....	
3	"	Discontinued.....	July 1st, 19.....	
4	J.....Z..... (Appointed Mar. 19....)	By Certificate.....	Dec. 1st, 19.....	
1	"	Expelled.....	Sept. 19.....	
2	"	Dropped.....	Jan. 1st, 19.....	
3	"	.....	.....
4	E.....E..... (Appointed Mar. 19....)	.....	.....
0	"	.....	.....
0	"	.....	.....
0	"	.....	.....

1. Let the second "No." represent the number received by each minister.
2. The word "Removed" signifies informal removal.
3. The word "Discontinued" signifies not elected to full membership.
4. The word "Dropped" signified neglect of duty and ceasing to claim membership.
5. The perpendicular spaces represent one-half of the room they should occupy in the Register.
6. The blanks under "Discontinuance" represent the number of members.

CHAPTER SIX. ANNUAL CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES

Conferences Entitled to Representation

1. Alabama includes that part of Florida, west of the Chattahoochee River and the entire state of Alabama, except that part of Choctaw County, west of the Tombigbee River.

2. Arkansas includes all of the State of Arkansas not included in Fort Smith District, and a strip of country, seven miles wide, situated in the north part of the State of Louisiana, between the Red River and the Ouachita River, and the Counties of Penisot, Maulden and New Madrid in the State of Missouri.

3. Eastern includes Western Vermont, Connecticut and that part of New York lying east of a line forming the boundary between the States of New York and New Jersey, terminating at the Delaware River; thence up said river to the northwest corner of Sullivan County; thence north to the northeast corner of Hamilton County; thence east to Lake Champlain; thence down the lake to the Canada line; all of the State of New Jersey, except that Newark and Elizabeth, until they shall otherwise elect, shall be in the Maryland District; and all of the State of Pennsylvania lying east of the Susquehanna River and that part lying west of said river not included in the Maryland and Pittsburgh Districts, and Cassville Circuit, formerly in the Pittsburgh Conference.

4. Fort Smith-Oklahoma Conference includes that portion Arkansas bounded as follows: Beginning at the northwest corner of Polk County and extending east to the Fourche River; thence down said river to its confluence with the Arkansas River, and to Spadre Bluff, on the Arkansas River to Kingston, and down King's River to its conflu-

ence with the White River, and from thence north to the state line of Arkansas, with the national line between the State of Arkansas and what was known as the Indian Territory as its western boundary. Also the boundary of Little River, Servier and Polk, and the State of Oklahoma.

5. Georgia includes the entire State of Georgia.

6. Illinois includes the State of Illinois.

7. Indiana includes the entire State of Indiana, also the German churches of the Northwest until such time as said churches shall otherwise elect.

8. Iowa-Missouri Conference includes the State of Iowa and that part of Missouri lying north of the Missouri River.

9. Kansas includes the State of Kansas, and Jackson County, Missouri.

10. Kentucky includes all the State of Kentucky not included in the Tennessee District.

11. Louisiana includes all the State of Louisiana except that part which is included in the Arkansas and Mississippi Districts.

12. Maryland includes the State of Maryland (except Garrett County) and that portion of the State of Virginia lying east of the Allegheny Mountains and north of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad; also the Cities of Norfolk and Lynchburg and the Counties of Campbell, Surrey, Westmoreland, Northumberland and Amelia; the State of Delaware, the District of Columbia and all that part of Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna River not included in the Pittsburgh District, and that part of the State of Pennsylvania east of the Susquehanna River (except Hummelstown Mission) not included in the Eastern District; Morgan, Jefferson and Berkley Counties in West Virginia; Charleston, in South Carolina, and Newark and Elizabeth, New Jersey, until they shall otherwise elect; also Ches-

terfield, Richmond and Lancaster Counties, in the State of Virginia.

13. Michigan includes all the State of Michigan.

14. Mississippi District includes all that portion of the State beginning at the northeast corner of Noxubee County, running along the northern boundary to the northwest corner; thence northwest to the northeast corner of Montgomery County; thence with the Georgia Pacific Railroad west to Greenwood; thence down the Mississippi River to the Gulf; thence east along the coast to the Alabama line; thence north along the line between Mississippi and Alabama to the southwest corner of Choctaw County; thence east to the Bigbee River; thence north to Sumpter County; thence west to the northwest corner of Mississippi and Alabama to the beginning.

15. Missouri includes that part of the State of Missouri lying south of the Missouri River, except the Counties of New Madrid, Dunklin and Peniscot, and Jackson.

16. North Carolina includes the entire State of North Carolina; Chesterfield, Anderson and Yarbrough counties in South Carolina; and Spring Church Station, Chase City, Danville, and Greenville Circuit in Virginia.

17. North Mississippi includes that portion of the State of Mississippi not included in the Mississippi District and McNarry County, formerly in the Tennessee District.

18. Ohio includes the State of Ohio except that part included in the Pittsburgh Conference.

19. Onondaga includes all the territory heretofore embraced in the Onondaga and Genesee Districts.

20. Pittsburgh includes that portion of the State of Pennsylvania lying west of the Allegheny Mountains, together with Clearfield Circuit, formerly belonging to the Maryland District, and that portion

of the State of Ohio lying east of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad, except Cleveland and Wells-ville, which shall belong to the Ohio District; it includes also Brooke and Hancock Counties and Fairmont Station, in West Virginia, until it shall otherwise elect, it having only a congregational right in said city.

21. South Carolina includes all the State of South Carolina except that part of Chesterfield County lying southwest of the Seaboard Air Line Railway and Anderson and Yarbrough Counties.

22. Tennessee includes the following: Beginning at the southeast corner of Allen County, Kentucky, running to Glasgow; thence with the Louisville and Nashville Railroad to Louisville, Kentucky, and thence to the Ohio River; with said river to Memphis; thence with the state line below Memphis and the Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia State lines to the southeast corner of Bradley County, Tennessee; thence with said line to Meigs County; thence with the east boundary of said county to Roan County; thence with the east boundary of Roan County to the north boundary of said county; thence to the Cumberland Mountains so as to include all west of this line; thence to the beginning.

23. Texas includes the entire State of Texas, except that portion of the panhandle north of a line running due west from Childress, Texas, to the New Mexico line.

24. Virginia includes all of the State of Virginia not included in the Maryland and North Carolina Districts, and that portion of the State of Tennessee east of the Cumberland Mountains; also the Counties of Pike and Letcher, in Kentucky.

25. West Virginia includes the following: Beginning at Moundsville, on the Ohio River; thence down said river to the Kentucky line; thence east with West Virginia line to the top of the Allegheny

Mountains; thence northward with the West Virginia line to the Morgan County line; thence with said line to the Maryland line; thence west with the state line to Garrett County, Maryland; thence with the said line to the Pennsylvania line; thence west to the southern boundary of Brooke County, West Virginia, so as to embrace Mount Morris, Taylors-town and Avery Circuits in Pennsylvania; thence with the said line to the Ohio River; thence with said river to the place of beginning, except Fairmont Station. Gans Church, formerly in the Pittsburgh Conference, is at its request, placed in the West Virginia Conference.

MISSION CONFERENCES

(Entitled to send one ministerial and one lay Messenger to the General Conference.)

1. Alabama (colored) includes the state of Alabama.
2. Arkansas (colored) includes the states of Arkansas and Louisiana.
3. Baltimore (colored) includes Maryland, District of Columbia, Delaware and Virginia.
4. China includes the province of Chihli, and the Chahar Administrative district.
5. Colorado-Texas (colored) includes the state of Texas west of the Brazos river.
6. Florida includes the state of Florida.
7. Georgia (colored) includes the state of Georgia and Florida.
8. India includes that part of the west Khandesh province which has been agreed upon with the Swedish Missionary Alliance.
9. Japan starts at Tokyo, follows the Tokaido, with adjacent territory, to Yokaichi.
10. South Carolina (colored) includes the state of South Carolina.
11. Washington includes the State of Washington.

CHAPTER SEVEN
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